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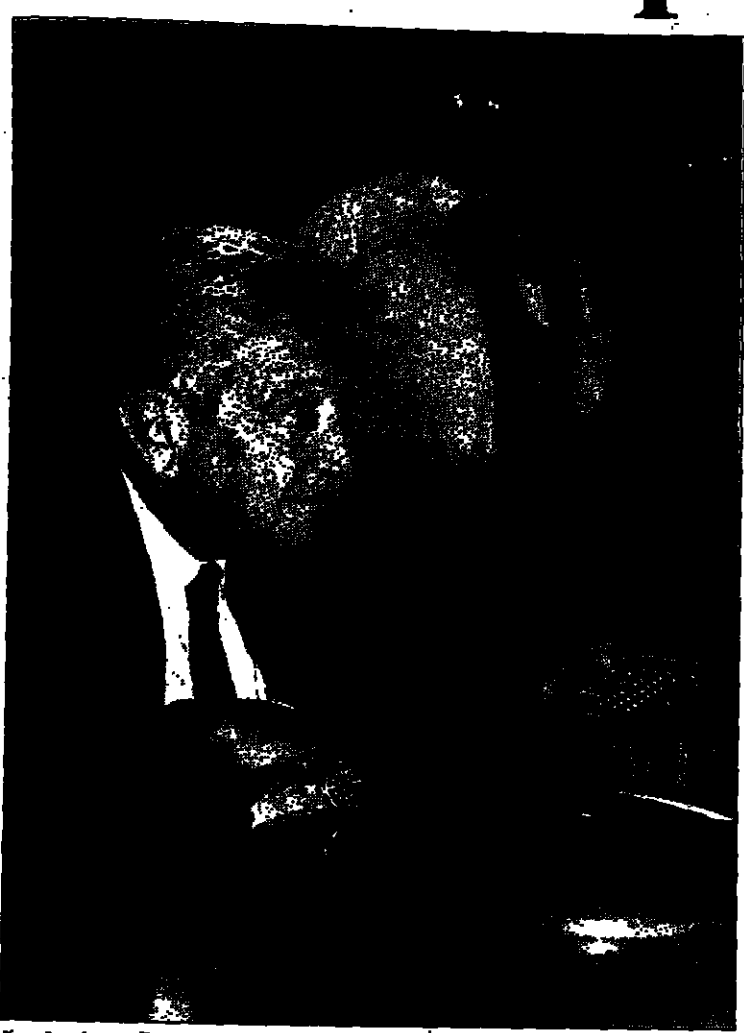
VOLUME LXII, NUMBER 18735 MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 1994 • ELUL 1, 5754 • I RABIA 1, 1415 NIS 3.70 (EILAT NIS 3.20)

Israel, Jordan open border crossing today

PM making first official visit to Jordan

BATSHEVA TSUR and news agencies

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin will make his first public visit to Jordan today, in the latest of a series of firsts that are edging Israel and Jordan toward a normalization of ties. Rabin is scheduled to hold talks with King Hussein at Akaba, after attending the 11 a.m. opening of a border crossing between Akaba and Eilat. Israel Television reported last night that Hussein may visit Jerusalem as early as Friday. Inaugurating the first direct telephone link between the two countries yesterday, President Ezer Weizman yesterday invited Hussein to visit Jerusalem. Weizman also expressed the hope it would eventually be possible for Israelis to go to Beirut, Damascus, and Baghdad. The border-crossing ceremony is to be attended by Hussein's brother, Crown Prince Hassan, Rabin, and US Secretary of State Warren Christopher. There was no explanation available of why Hussein would not attend. Rabin's delegation will include Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, Chief Justice Meir Shamgar, IDF Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Ehud Barak, former foreign minister Abba Eban, and leaders of government and opposition factions. The Rabin-Hussein summit will follow, after which Hussein will head back to Amman and take his 10-day port cruise. The summit and Israel's negotiations with the PLO will be the main topics of the Israeli side.



Jordanian Gen. Rashid Mansour (saluting) arrives near Sdom yesterday to help in preparations for today's border opening. At left, President Ezer Weizman listens to King Hussein (Yitzhak Elhanan/Scoop 80; Stein/Hamri)



of the Dead Sea, on the nations' territorial and water disputes. Christopher will inaugurate the border crossing by being the first to drive the 6-kilometer road from Akaba to Eilat, Mohammed Roussan, a Jordanian Army colonel told the Associated Press. The Jordanian checkpoint, like its Israeli counterpart, includes customs, immigration, a currency exchange, restaurant, tourist office and taxi stand. A blue tent has been erected between the checkpoints for today's ceremony, which will include speeches by dignitaries and handshakes between members of Jordanian and Israeli families who have lost relatives in wars between the two countries. Jordanian and Israeli flags have been put up at all corners of the border point, named the Arava crossing. Late yesterday, Jordanian and Israeli workers were still putting final touches on the approach roads. The crossing will be open only to third-country nationals at first. Jordanian officials expect a large influx of Western tourists to Akaba from Eilat. Western nationals will be issued visas at the crossing on condition they spend at least three days in Jordan, officials said. A group of 40 Spaniards will be the first tourists to use the crossing, said Jordanian Tourism Minister Mohammed Udwan. Yesterday, eight hard-line Jordanian parties, including the powerful Islamic Action Front, the political wing of the Moslem Brotherhood, submitted a public letter to Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali, protesting the normalization of relations with Israel. "We reject all of the negotiations and believe that they have been undertaken without the consent of the Jordanian people," said the statement. The atmosphere was far more positive in Jerusalem, where an aide to Weizman dialed Jordan's international code number, 962, followed by 6, the Amman area code, and the number of the Hussein's palace. Then Weizman spoke to the monarch, greeting him in Arabic. Hussein expressed the hope they would meet soon and Weizman responded immediately by inviting him to visit Jerusalem. "I hope it will be soon," Hussein said.

"I will take you up in an airplane [when you visit]," Weizman told the king, adding that he had no doubt noticed, when he flew over Israel, that the distance between Jerusalem and Amman is shorter than that between Jerusalem and Haifa. "We will do that," Hussein responded, referring to Weizman's offer. The monarch described the telephone link as "a very good step forward." Recalling his childhood visits to Arab capitals, Weizman told the monarch he would like to see Israel.

is visiting Beirut and Damascus. "Yes, this will be a transfigured Israel," Hussein replied. "It will be the dawn of peace in our region and I think we will... become normal soon, as opposed to what we have been used to so many years, which was certainly abnormal." Weizman then said, "You are definitely taking a great part in this fantastic historic enterprise, to see the Middle East blooming and improving for the benefit of all people around us." David Makovsky contributed to this report.

Barak predicts tension with Hizbullah will lessen

ISRAEL will seek to reduce tensions with Hizbullah, since the precipitating cause of the weekend's Katyusha barrage was an IDF mistake, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Ehud Barak told cabinet ministers yesterday. Meanwhile, US Secretary of State Warren Christopher held talks in Damascus last night in a bid to advance Israel-Syrian talks. The secretary, who held discussions in Jerusalem yesterday and the night before on this subject, is to continue talks with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in Jerusalem this evening before making a return trip to Syria tomorrow. Senior IDF officials told the cabinet yesterday that seven Lebanese civilians were killed on Thursday because the pilot made a mechanical error, according to two participants in yesterday's session. Barak predicted tensions between Israel and Hizbullah would now lessen, since both sides want to stick to the US-brokered understandings reached last summer following Operation Accountability. According to those understandings, Hizbullah will not attack Israeli civilians in the Galilee and Israel will not retaliate by attacking Lebanese civilians. Christopher contacted Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara and Rabin after the most recent escalation of tension on Friday and urged each side to exercise maximum restraint. Speaking to reporters after

meeting with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres yesterday, Christopher said, "Frequently when attacks like this occur, I've been asked or I've prompted myself to contact any of the parties who might be effective in bringing those attacks under control. I've done that again in this situation. Incidents like those that have happened in the last few days only underscore the need for a peaceful resolution of these problems." At his meeting with Peres, Christopher relayed requests from PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, including one for the release of some Palestinian prisoners, the foreign minister said. Arafat promised Christopher in

Egypt on Saturday to adhere to a partial list of demands insisted upon by the World Bank. The PLO leader refuses full compliance at this time, believing that only personal total control of funding will ensure that his power remains undiluted. Donors want to ensure the stability of the Palestinian Authority, while not wanting it to waste funds. During the Christopher-Peres meeting yesterday, Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin offered an idea to circumvent the logjam on releasing hundreds of millions of aid dollars from the international community to the authority. Beilin suggested the money be released to UNRWA, which has the accountability and transparency criteria demanded by the World Bank. Arafat turned down a proposal by donors recently that money be sent directly to pay the salary of Palestinian policemen. In the meantime, the secretary said he wrote a letter to the 34 countries donating money to the PLO urging that some project aid be released. However, there is concern that if each country goes its own way in dealing separately with the PLO, the leverage of the World Bank in ensuring the establishment of a financially accountable Palestinian Authority would be significantly weakened. Meanwhile, sources say Saudi Arabia has just agreed to provide Syria with a \$200 million power plant in Aleppo. 3 killed in Nabatiya blast, Page 2

'Gov't has shelved Jericho bypass road'

ALON PINKAS

THE civil administration and the Housing and Construction Ministry have jettisoned their plans to pave a new Jericho bypass road, designed to serve Israelis traveling through autonomous Jericho, said Jordan Valley Council head David Levy yesterday. Levy told visiting Deputy Defense Minister Mordechai Gur that plans to build the new NIS 200 million road had been curtailed due to budgetary constraints. Gur assured Levy he would look into the matter, since the government promised Jordan Valley residents it would build the road following the Oslo and Cairo agreements on the implementation of autonomy. IDF sources confirmed yesterday that budgetary problems have caused unanticipated delays in construction, but declined to comment on Levy's assertion the road will not be built at all. They said this is a decision the government, not the army makes. Israeli motorists currently drive through Jericho only after confirming it with the army, and only in five-vehicle motorcades.

US may appoint first Jewish envoy to Israel

DAVID MAKOVSKY

MARTIN Indyk, the White House's top specialist on Middle East affairs, is to be President Bill Clinton's choice to serve as the next US ambassador to Israel, US and Israeli officials say. Should Indyk be appointed, he would be the first Jew to serve in the post. Israel was informed of the US intention to make the appointment on Saturday night, during Secretary of State Warren Christopher's meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, US officials say. Christopher, however, refused to confirm Indyk's appointment publicly. Speaking to reporters after meeting with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres yesterday in Jerusalem, Christopher said, "Martin Indyk has been one of the most

respected members of our peace team. He is very highly regarded in the United States by the president and by me." He added, however, the naming of a new envoy is Clinton's decision to make. In addition to his service on the peace team, Indyk is the author of the "dual containment" strategy, calling for a firm US policy in dealing with Iran as well Iraq. Before joining the Clinton administration, the Australian-born Indyk founded the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, building it into an influential research body advising American policy makers. Edward Djerejian, whom he would be replacing, left Tel Aviv earlier this month after serving for only seven months. The official said he expected

Yemen said to be easing departure of Jews to Israel

SANAA, Yemen (AP) - Yemen has begun allowing members of its small Jewish community to emigrate to Israel after years of resisting it, an official said yesterday. A government official claimed that 19 Yemeni Jews left for Israel last week and that two more groups - one of 15 and the other of 12 - were to leave by tomorrow. They are traveling to Israel via Cairo or London, he said. The official said he expected

these groups to be followed by larger numbers of Jews. He would not say why the government was relaxing its hold on the small Jewish community, which he estimated at about 5,000 people. This is five times larger than previous government estimates of Yemen's Jewish community, one of the oldest in the Middle East. Jewish organizations in recent years have put pressure on the Yemeni government to allow Jews to leave for Israel. But Yemen would only let a trickle go, and only to third countries. Yemenis cannot return to their homeland if they have Israeli entry visas stamped in their passports. Yemen had been staunchly committed to pan-Arab resolutions that sought to curb the number of Jews emigrating to Israel to prevent inflating its population.

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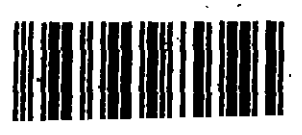
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Egyptians want to open border to trucks

EGYPT has expressed interest in opening the border crossings at Nitzana and Rafiah to trucks, even though the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel does not permit truck traffic across the border, the Transport Ministry announced yesterday. Transport Minister Yisrael Kes-

sar said he was informed of this by an aide to the Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa, Rauf Sa'ad. Sa'ad is heading a visiting Egyptian delegation that yesterday had meetings at the ministry to discuss the integration of all regional transportation systems into one system. This system would include a network of highways that would lead from one country to another, including a highway from Cairo to Damascus that would run through



Bomb blast in Nabatiya kills three people

THREE Lebanese civilians were reported killed and at least 11 others wounded in an explosion in the center of Nabatiya north of the security zone yesterday.

Initial reports said the blast was caused deliberately, fueling fears of a further escalation of the violent incidents over the weekend during which two IDF soldiers were killed and Katyusha rockets were fired at Western Galilee.

Later reports, however, said the blast was apparently the result of an accident. It occurred when a local resident, who reportedly worked in the building trade, was driving his tractor and trailer, loaded with dynamite, through the center of the town which was crowded with shoppers.

The incident marred what was otherwise a quiet but tense day in south Lebanon, the security zone and along the northern border.

Lebanese radio stations reported some shelling north of the zone and that the IDF had bolstered its tank and artillery forces in the eastern sector, but these reports proved to be unfounded.

Meanwhile, the army continued

DAVID RUDGE

its investigations yesterday into the clash between a Givati Brigade unit and Hizbullah gunmen near Aishiyeh early Saturday morning in which Captain Avshalom Oren, 24, from Tiberias and Sgt. Iygeny Vratzlavski, 19, from Jerusalem were killed and two other soldiers were lightly wounded.

Oren and Vratzlavski were buried yesterday. Oren was buried in the Yavne'el cemetery near Tiberias, while Vratzlavski's funeral was held at the military cemetery on Mt. Herzl in Jerusalem.

According to initial inquiries, the troops charged after coming under fire from the Hizbullah squad, which was en route to attack IDF and South Lebanese Army positions in the area, and the soldiers acted properly.

Military sources said they expect Hizbullah to continue its attacks on the zone, although the assessment was that no more Katyusha rockets would be fired at the Galilee.

The rocket attacks were viewed as Hizbullah's response to Israel's

violation of Operation Accountability understandings not to hit civilian targets in last Thursday's erroneous IAF strike on a house in Deir Zaharani, in which seven people were killed and 17 wounded, including women and children.

Life in Western Galilee returned almost to normal yesterday in the wake of the rocket attacks, during which a house in the center of a moshav in the area suffered a direct hit and three children were lightly wounded.

One of them, Asif Cohen, 15, returned home yesterday after having been held in Nabatiya hospital for observation, and helped in the clean-up operations.

Residents of the moshav and neighboring communities have complained about the government's failure to honor promises to fund the construction of additional security rooms for their homes.

Surveys have revealed that there is a marked shortage of security rooms in the region, which has been the target of several Katyusha rocket attacks in recent months.

Syrian officer surrenders to SLA; reportedly seeking asylum here

DAVID RUDGE

A SYRIAN officer, apparently seeking asylum in Israel, yesterday surrendered himself to South Lebanese Army soldiers in a village inside the security zone, according to news agency reports from the region.

The reports did not say how he managed into the zone past at least two SLA positions and a UN outpost without being discovered.

There was also no information regarding where he had come from.

According to the reports, he was seen in the village of Alman in the zone, on Saturday night and hid that night in the local mosque.

He reportedly spoke to local residents, telling them his name is Abdel Khoudr Darweesh, and that

he is 27, and reportedly telling them that he wanted to get to Israel.

After staying in the mosque overnight, he was picked up yesterday morning by three SLA men who arrived at the scene, the reports said. He was apparently then handed over to Israeli security officials.

No further details were available last night.

Family gets advance for damage caused by Katyushas

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE Property Tax Department will pay a NIS 50,000 advance to the Cohen family whose house was damaged on Saturday by Katyusha rockets fired at Western Galilee from Southern Lebanon, the Treasury spokesman announced yesterday.

Property Tax officials have been evaluating the damage since Saturday caused by the Katyusha rockets. They visited the Cohen's residence and evaluated the damage it and nearby houses suffered. Yesterday a Housing Ministry building engineer was sent to give an exact damage evaluation of the Cohen residence. In addition, agricultural surveyors were sent to evaluate the damage to the area orchards.

Givatayim bomber at large

RAINE MARCUS

TEL AVIV police were last night searching for a man who was wounded when a bomb he was about to hurl in a busy Givatayim street earlier in the evening exploded in his hand.

Police said they suspect the aborted attack was criminally motivated, although initially they believed the bomber was a terrorist.

The man, described as young and of Arab appearance, fled the scene, the corner of Givatayim's Weizmann and Tiber streets, apparently running into a nearby cemetery. He had been carrying a plastic bag containing a pipe bomb, which exploded in his hand.

Police and sapper units sealed off the streets while they scoured the area and the cemetery for additional devices. Other units launched a massive manhunt, assisted by a police helicopter which hovered above for several hours.

Police warned residents to go into their homes and stay in interior rooms, for fear undiscovered bombs might go off. By about 8:30 the area was cleared and the streets were reopened to traffic.

The incident occurred around 6 p.m., when the man, described by

eyewitness army officer Esti Ziv as wearing a black shirt and green pants, was seen with a white plastic bag in his hand.

"Suddenly the bag exploded," said Ziv, who had just returned from her army base and had been standing some two meters away from the man. "He shouted 'Ya'allah' and started to run. I noticed his hands were covered in blood and he left trickles of blood on the sidewalk."

Akiva Shalom, who owns a kiosk a few meters away from the corner where the bomb exploded said he had seen the plastic bag earlier in the day.

"I am sure the bag was there in the morning," he said. "It was near an old van which has been parked on the street for about a week and belongs to some guy who lives around the corner."

He said he heard the blast but did not see the bomber. After the man escaped, Shalom said he saw two pipes which had fallen out of the bag and were attached to a metal device.

"Then I just saw a huge cloud of dust," he said.

The bomb's remains were successfully defused by sappers.

Baram: Too early to assess damage to tourism in North

HAIM SHAPIRO

TOURISM Minister Uzi Baram said yesterday that it was still too early to assess the possible damage to tourism in the north of the country as a result of this weekend's Katyusha attacks.

Baram would not say if hoteliers in the north would be compensated if tourism did drop. He said that the ministry was investigating other ways of encouraging tourism in the area, such as a special marketing campaign.

Baram noted that the Finance Ministry had still not fully compensated northern hotels for loss of business as a result of Operation Accountability.

Meanwhile, Yoel Rosenblat, chairman of the Nabariya Hotel Association, told a delegation from the National Hotel Association executive that hotel occupancy in the northern resort town is 80 percent and that hoteliers in the area believe it will near 100 percent by the end of the week.

The Nabariya Hotel Association is appealing to the government to develop additional tourist attractions in the area.

Germany first to open Jericho mission

BONN (Reuters) - Germany will open a mission in Jericho today, to become the first foreign government to open an office in the autonomous areas.

Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel said yesterday.

"Germany will become the first country to open a representative office in the Palestinian self-rule areas [today]," Kinkel said in a statement.

"Peace and stability will only arrive in the Middle East region, so long torn by war, when the economic and social conditions for the people there clearly

improves," he added. "Germany wants to make its contribution to the rebuilding of the Palestinian region."

Kinkel said the purpose of the liaison office, which will be staffed by Foreign Ministry personnel, would be to coordinate German aid and technological assistance.

Kinkel said Bonn would help build up a Palestinian police force, a judicial system and help train journalists and administrators.

and-parcel of our agenda at that conference, which had many intimate pieces."

But he charged Klein with a "willful failure to consult" with AIPAC on ZOA lobbying activities and with a "propensity on more than one occasion to go solo ... in direct violation of the communal consensus."

Klein defended his actions at the committee conference, saying "It's important that people involved in Jewish issues show support for those supporting bills in favor of a strong US-Israeli relationship."

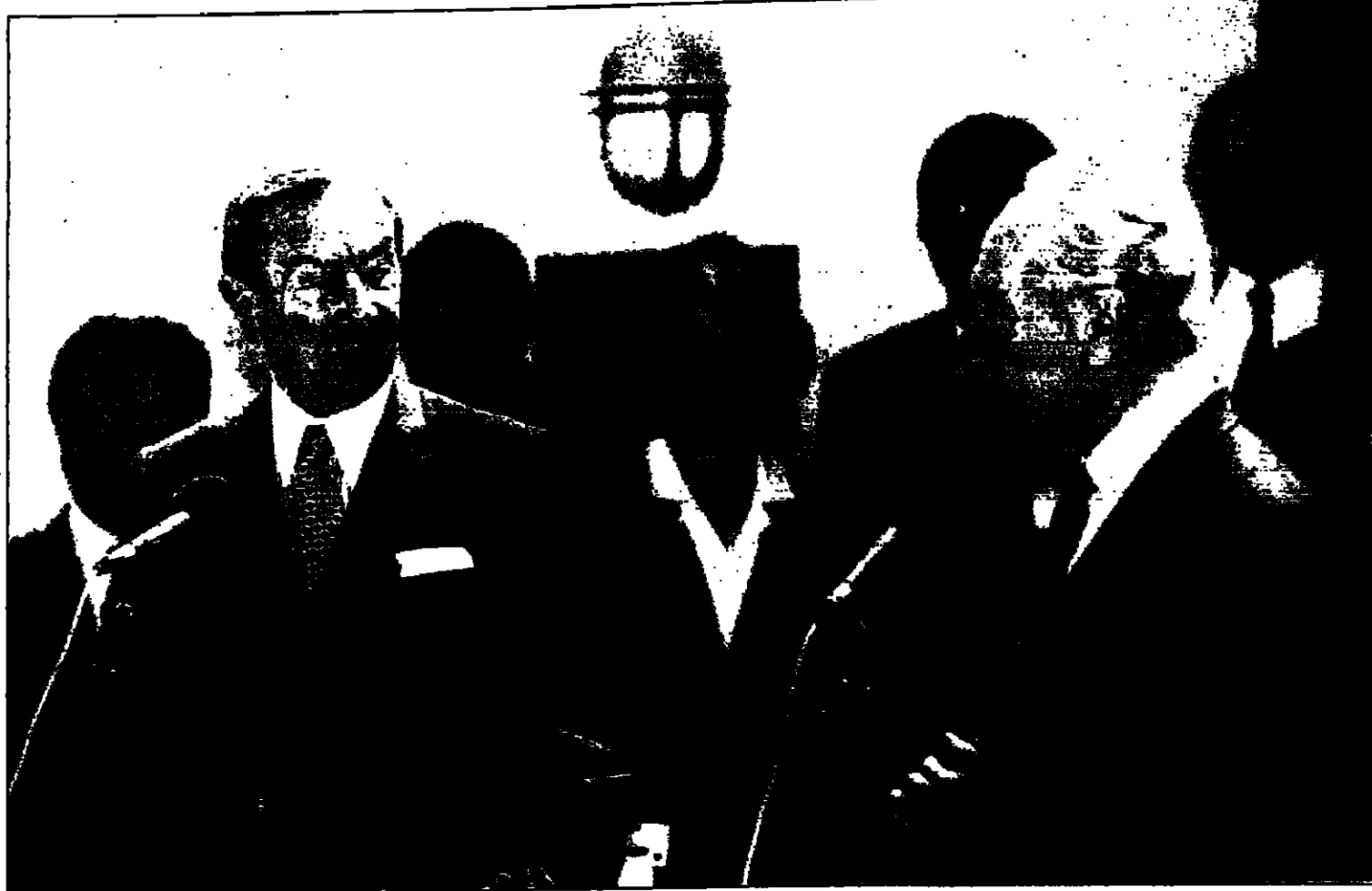
Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the ace of spades, queen of hearts, 10 of diamonds and seven of clubs.

CORRECTION

The editors of *Davar* are not on holiday, as reported in yesterday's paper.

In last Friday's *Time Out*, a quote concerning the sabotaging of off-beat films was wrongly attributed to Nati Alter in "Film's fundamental principles."



US Secretary of State Warren Christopher is welcomed by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres at the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem yesterday.

(Shen/Haran)

Defector: Saudis tried to buy nuclear reactors

SUE FISHKOFF

NEW YORK

A FORMER member of Saudi Arabia's UN Mission, now seeking political asylum in the US, charges that Saudi Arabia tried to buy nuclear research reactors in 1989 from China and a US company, according to yesterday's *New York Times*.

During an interview on Friday with the *Times*, Mohammed A. Khilewi, formerly the second-ranking official at the UN Mission, produced letters he said backed up his story.

One letter, dated January 10, 1989, the *Times* said, was from the China Nuclear Energy Industry Corporation in Beijing, and was addressed to Prince Abdel Rahman, a nephew of King Fahd. It reportedly told the prince that the Chinese company was prepared to sell Saudi Arabia miniature neutron source reac-

tors, and pay the prince a five percent commission on the sale.

These reactors are small models used for nuclear research, the *Times* reported.

A second 1989 letter allegedly states that a senior official received "documents/specifications for a miniature neutron source reactor."

Khilewi, who broke with his government in May and applied for political asylum in the US in June, also says that when he left Saudi Arabia two years ago, the country had two nuclear reactors.

Saudi Arabia signed the Nuclear Nonprolifera-

tion Treaty in 1988, pledging not to acquire nuclear weapons.

A senior Saudi Embassy official in Washington disputed the authenticity of Khilewi's letters, but did not challenge their contents, the *Times* reported.

A former US arms control official told *The Jerusalem Post* that while Khilewi's letters may be authentic, they do not suggest a serious attempt by Saudi Arabia to develop nuclear weapons.

The official, who participated in a 1983 study of nuclear capabilities in the Middle East as requested by Congress, says that the study concluded that no country in the region with the possible exception of Iraq would pose any nuclear challenge to Israel "for a long period."

Moslem militants meet behind security cordon in London

LONDON (Reuters) - A controversial gathering of Moslem militants began peacefully here on yesterday, shielded by a tight police cordon following the two anti-Israel bomb attacks.

The International Moslem Khalifah Conference, billed as the biggest gathering of Islamic fundamentalists outside the Middle East, has been seen as potential flashpoint between radical young Moslems and the Jewish community in Britain.

Conference organizers deny they are promoting an anti-Jewish message but are avowedly opposed to the State of Israel, which they accuse of waging war against Moslems throughout the world.

"There is nobody antisemitic who is going to be at this conference, there is nobody anti-Jewish," said Farid Kassim, a spokesman for the militant student group Hizb ut-Tahrir, which dominates the conference organizer, the Moslem Unity Organization.

Sympathizers say the conference is a "family meeting" to discuss political and cultural issues, like human rights and the Islamic religious revival. Speakers include fundamentalist dissidents from Saudi Arabia.

By mid-afternoon, the only disturbance at the conference was the arrest of two gay rights protesters outside the venue. Police broke up a demonstration by placard-waving homosexual rights campaigners at Wembley in northwest London.

"Islamic bigots burn queers alive," read one placard left in the street after the protesters were hauled away. "PLO and Hamas persecute queers," said another.

Kassim blamed the British media for much of the bad publicity which preceded the conference. "There have been a lot of claims in the media over anti-Jewish sentiment. This highlights how much Moslems are disenfranchised in Britain... we deeply regret that the media has allowed such tensions," Kassim told a news conference.

But he added: "We can't guarantee there won't be any terrorists because in any crowd there could be terrorists."

The strident anti-Israel rhetoric of the organizers has angered British Jewish groups.

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Suspect detained in J'lem lawyer's murder

BILL HUTMAN

JERUSALEM police have detained the man they believe murdered attorney Shmuel Levinson last week, but were still looking for a second assailant apparently also involved in the incident.

Friday, 25-year-old Kamal Siham, from the A-Ram neighborhood of north Jerusalem, was arrested. He was remanded yesterday for 15 days by the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court.

Siham denied involvement in the robbery and murder last Wednesday. Levinson was fatally shot as he struggled with two burglars who surprised him when he returned home, according to police.

Classified material pertaining to the case was turned over to the court by police representatives, according to the police spokesman.

He declined to elaborate, on grounds publication of the information would hurt the investigation. According to police, Siham has a history of criminal activity, including several past arrests.

Sources close to the case said investigators believe a second assailant was also involved, although it was possible that Siham alone entered the attorney's home, in the Rehavia neighborhood.

Solidarity rally held in capital on Pollard's 40th birthday

BATSHEVA TSUR

SOME 40 Women in Green, joined by New York rabbi and activist Avi Weiss and other supporters, held a solidarity rally for Jonathan Pollard across from the US Consulate in Jerusalem yesterday, marking Pollard's 40th birthday.

Lighting a huge birthday cake with 40 candles, the demonstrators sang "Happy Birthday" as a group of curious staffers from the consulate building looked on. The demonstrators, blowing whistles, urged passing motorists to come sign a huge billboard with requests to free Pollard.

"Jonathan has never been so psychologically down as he is now, even though he is in the less restrictive Butler facility," Weiss told the rally. "If anything can help him, perhaps it is the knowledge that he has supporters." He called on Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to continue to press "quietly" for Pollard's release.

Former MK Geula Cohen said that she was sorry the demonstration was not taking place outside the Prime Minister's Office.

"While it is clear that the Statue of Liberty should hang its head in shame, neither the previous government of Israel nor this one has done enough to free Jonathan," she said.

A letter of support from 49 Knesset members from across the political spectrum was read out to the gathering.

Solidarity rallies were also due to take place yesterday evening outside FBI regional headquarters in Miami Beach and at other places in the US, England and France.

In Tel Aviv, Jonathan's former wife Anne said: "I hope people realize that Jonathan lost what many of us consider the best years of his life, his thirties, sitting in jail on behalf of the State of Israel."

"I pray that the government will do all in its power to convince President Clinton that he has suffered too much and let him come here to lead a productive life in his forties. We all have a moral obligation to him."



Deputy Education Minister Micha Goldman at the weekend congratulates one of 46 immigrants from Ethiopia who graduated the 'Magen Zion' course preparing them for IDF service. At the same ceremony, the training base itself was dedicated. The Sha'arei Avraham Base readies both new immigrants and native-born Israelis for military service. (Defense Ministry)

Kach spokesman banned from territories

BILL HUTMAN

THE spokesman for the outlawed Kach group was handed an IDF order yesterday forbidding him from entering Judea and Samaria, after being questioned by police in connection with a recent para-military camp run by the group.

The spokesman, 18-year-old Itamar Ben-Gvir, said he would appeal the order, and vowed that the a second session of the camp would soon be held.

Ben-Gvir said he was given the order, signed by OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Ilan

Biran, after over two hours of questioning at the Police Serious Crimes Division in Petah Tikva.

It stated that Ben-Gvir was forbidden from entering Judea and Samaria through September 5, for security reasons.

A second group activist, Avishai Raviv, was also questioned yesterday by police at the Serious Crimes Division. To date, six activists have

been interrogated by police in connection with the para-military camp.

The activists, calling themselves "former Kach members" in an effort to get around the ban on the group, maintain they did nothing wrong by giving teenagers para-military training and lessons in the teachings of slain Kach leader Rabbi Meir Kahane.

Kach was outlawed by the government after the Hebron massacre, although members have continued to be active.

Petition challenges sudden closure of Jerusalem state-religious school

EVELYN GORDON

THE Jerusalem Municipality has no right to close a school a few weeks before the start of the new school year, because this doesn't give parents enough time to make other arrangements for their children, a petition to the High Court of Justice charged yesterday.

The petition, which challenges the city's decision to close the Neveh Etzion state-religious school for boys in Bayit Vagan, was filed by the school's parents' committee.

The court is expected to rule today on whether to grant a temporary injunction prohibiting the closure. According to Eli Cohen, one of the petitioners, the injunction is necessary because the hard-edged school is slated to take over the Neveh Etzion classrooms starts classes today.

According to the petition, the city has been considering closing the school for some time, because

of declining enrollment. However, after a tour of Bayit Vagan with Mayor Ehud Olmert on July 6, Nissim Solomon, the head of the city's education department, told the parents it would be impossible to disband the school "from one day to the next," in the month of August.

On July 24, the superintendent of the city's state-religious school system, Ya'acov Cohen, also assured the parents that the school would stay open for another year.

However, on July 31, the parents were suddenly notified that the school would not be opened for the coming school year. The parents appealed the decision to the city council, but on August 3, the council voted 13-12 to close the school.

In their petition, the parents argued that it was unfair for the city

to close the school at this late date, especially after having promised not to do so. With the school year starting on August 28, there will be no time for parents to research the available options and find the best alternative for their children, the petition said.

"We aren't talking about displacing objects!" the petition noted.

Eli Cohen said the problem was especially difficult because most of the other state-religious schools in the city are educational. The only other boys-only school within a reasonable distance, he said, has no room for additional pupils.

Furthermore, the petition said, many parents have already bought their children's books in accordance with the Neveh Etzion book list.

Moving their children to a different school with a different list would cause them financial loss.

Businessman hoping to offer 'Made in Israel' babies

CARL SCHRAG

MORRIS Kauffman hopes Jewish couples from abroad unable to have a baby will pay up to two and half times the normal amount to adopt one with that coveted Made in Israel label.

The Beersheba businessman is in the process of opening an all-Jewish surrogate mother service, that will provide Jewish babies for \$100,000. But he has yet to receive the business licenses he will need to run his new outfit legally.

"I already have clients and surrogates," he said yesterday. "The only thing missing is the go-ahead from the income tax and Value Added Tax authorities."

The VAT spokeswoman said that Kauffman's request for a VAT license was "unusual," so it is undergoing a legal review. While no law expressly forbids surrogacy, neither is it specifically permitted. A public professional committee last month recommended permitting surrogacy under certain conditions, but no legislative action has been taken.

Kauffman, who imported women's clothing until he decided to establish Kauffman Surrogate Services, says he has lined up more than a dozen local women willing to act as surrogates and has a list of US couples willing to pay \$100,000 for the service.

Prisoner asks court for right to write column

EVELYN GORDON

AN Israeli prisoner yesterday appealed to the Supreme Court for the right to write a weekly newspaper column from prison.

According to the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI), which is representing the prisoner, the question of to what extent a prisoner's freedom of expression can be limited has never before been discussed by the Supreme Court.

Avi Hananya Golan has been in prison for the past six years on charges of fraud, forgery and theft. In 1989, while in the Ashkelon jail, he received permission from the prison authorities to write a column about his life in prison for an Ashdod local paper.

After he had published about 10 articles, however, he was moved to the Ashdod prison near Netanya. At the same time, the prison authorities canceled his permit without explanation, according to ACRI. Golan therefore petitioned the Tel Aviv District Court.

On July 6, the district court gave Golan 15 days to submit additional legal material. A week later, however, it issued a ruling rejecting his petition, without waiting for the 15 days to elapse.

Neither of these, Yakir claimed, justified limiting a prisoner's freedom of expression.

Golan had even agreed to let the Prisons Service censor his articles before publication, Yakir said, but the service rejected this suggestion, saying it was not equipped to run a censorship bureau.

Yakir argued that letting prisoners publish serves a useful purpose, by giving the public information on what goes on inside prison walls. In addition, he said, it gives the prisoners access to some sort of public supervision - something which the standard complaint mechanism does not, since most complaints are handled internally, by the Prisons Service itself.

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Bosnian Serb leader vows to fight on alone

SARAJEVO (Reuters) - Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic vowed to fight on alone after being cut off by Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, and his forces were attacked by NATO.

The United Nations reported no let-up in fighting in central Bosnia, an area where the Serbs have lost some ground to the Muslim-led Bosnian army in the past few days.

In Sarajevo, sniping continued and French UN anti-sniper teams on the government side of the inner-city front line fired back at Serb marksmen with machine-guns and cannon mounted on their armored personnel carriers.

"We have deployed a lot of troops to deter these snipers," said UN spokesman Major Rob Annink. "As of yesterday, foot patrols have located a number of places where snipers are hidden."

Karadzic's defiant statement was delivered shortly after Bosnian Serb forces averted the threat of further NATO air strikes by returning five heavy weapons including a tank they had seized from a UN compound in Sarajevo.

The commander of UN troops in Bosnia, Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose, called in an air attack on Friday to punish the Serbs for taking the weapons and had threatened further NATO raids if the arms were not given back.

The NATO planes attacked the Serbs for the first time since April and one day after Karadzic's backer to the east, Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, severed economic and political relations with the Bosnian Serbs.

The international community has threatened to punish Serbia with tougher sanctions because of the Bosnian Serbs' continued refusal to accept the latest peace plan, drawn up by the United States, Britain, France, Germany and Russia.

With the Yugoslav economy on its knees and winter looming, Karadzic wants to avoid any tightening of the two-year-old embargo.

As hundreds of loaded trucks were turned back at the Serbian-Bosnian border, Karadzic acknowledged that he must do without Belgrade's lifeline of arms, fuel and other war supplies.

"It seems to us that we have to grow up to be separate from our mother and to be older and adult and we have to fight. Now we are totally, totally alone, only God is with us," Karadzic said.

He was referring to Serbia, which had armed and financed the Bosnian Serbs in their 28-month war against Bosnia's Muslim-led government after the former Yugoslav republic's independence.

Serbs meanwhile stripped 64 Moslems of their money, jewelry and other possessions and expelled them across a minefield to government-held territory in Bosnia, a UN spokesman said yesterday.

The forced exodus in the dead of night last week raised to 300 the number of Moslems evicted from Bijeljina town since mid-July in a resurgence of "ethnic cleansing" in the Serb-held north.

Relief officials believe the Serbs have resumed ethnic purges after a long pause to cement their grip on a domain spanning 70 percent of Bosnia in a reaction against intense pressure to cede land under an international peace plan.

Peter Kessler, spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, said 47 women, eight elderly men and nine children arrived in government-held Tuzla.

"They were ordered out of their homes in Bijeljina last Wednesday and Thursday nights, taken away in trucks to another location, where they were forced to sign over their property and give up their jewelry and money," he said.

"The menfolk were separated from their families and, we believe, detained for forced labor."



Policemen search suspects as hundreds of French police set up road blocks in Paris yesterday in the wake of threats by Algerian Moslem fundamentalists

French police step up security in Paris after Algerians threaten reprisals

IRWIN ARIEFF
PARIS

POLICE fanned out across Paris yesterday after Algerian fundamentalists threatened reprisals if France failed to free 17 suspected Moslem militants it is detaining under heavy guard.

Some 3,000 people were stopped overnight on the streets of the capital and 51 of these were taken in for questioning, a police official said.

Most were foreigners found to have irregularities in their identity papers, the official said, adding, "There could be more such operations today and in days to come."

A rail terminal, the Gare d'Est, and a nearby Metro underground station were evacuated after a bomb threat was received, police said. Both sites were being searched.

France on Saturday dismissed a demand by the military wing of the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) to free 17 Moslems seized following Wednesday's terrorist attack on a French embassy housing compound

in Algiers in which seven French officials were killed.

The militant Algerian Armed Islamic Group (AIG), which claimed responsibility for the attack, on Saturday warned Algerian students and teachers to stay away from schools and universities and said any which stayed open would be blown up or burnt down.

The 17 detainees, accused by Interior Minister Charles Pasqua of "support for terrorism" while on French soil, were being held in an army camp in the village of Folembert, northeast of Paris.

Paris has strongly supported Algeria's army-backed authorities since they cancelled a general election in January 1992 which the FIS was poised to win. At least 4,000 Algerians and 56 foreigners have been killed in subsequent violence.

The FIS has been banned in Algeria and is a prime target of a French crackdown on suspected fundamentalists.

"The arrest and detention of these brothers, most of them members of the FIS or sympathizers in the cause for which they are fighting, means that France has declared war on the FIS and on Algerian Moslems," the FIS military wing - called the Islamic Salvation Army (AIS) - said in a statement circulated in Algiers and obtained in Paris.

"France should renounce this policy of belligerence and free our brothers or it will assume responsibility for what will happen at the hands of the mujahideen affiliated with the AIS," said the statement.

Interior ministry officials said the ministry ordered a tightening of security across France in anticipation

of such threats when the decision was made to round up suspected activists.

In addition to the streets of Paris, police surveillance was also being increased at embassies, rail stations and airports, the officials said.

Pasqua told French television all of those detained were served with expulsion orders, but he added France will not expel them at this time because their lives would be in danger if they were forced to return to Algeria.

If they could find a country willing to take them they could leave immediately. Otherwise, he planned to detain them for "the time required," Pasqua said.

Ministry official Bernard Guillet told Reuters France was making no effort to grant them asylum. Asked how long they might be held, he said: "There are no limits."

Top AIDS researchers warn against optimism

YOKOHAMA (AP) - A top health official opened the 10th International Conference on AIDS on a somber note yesterday, warning against "naïve optimism" that science will control the epidemic any time soon.

Dr. Peter Piot, president of the International AIDS Society, a sponsor of the meeting, noted that the efforts to create drugs to treat AIDS and vaccines to prevent it have largely failed.

Piot's comments reflect the sober concern among many researchers gathered for the annual meeting that breakthroughs against AIDS are unlikely. This is far different from the enthusiasm that prevailed in the early days of the epidemic. Many thought then that vaccines, treatments and perhaps even cures might come quickly.

"After an era of naïve optimism about what science and technology can achieve overnight, and after a period of equally unfounded pessimism, it is time for this conference to be one of realism," Piot said.

He said the world should face the fact that AIDS is no longer simply an outbreak. Instead, it has become entrenched and "will be an integral part of the human condition for a very long time to come."

In recent times, scientists have come to appreciate just what a powerful foe HIV, the AIDS virus, truly is. It mutates quickly and within months finds ways to elude the killing power of new drugs. Furthermore, the experimental vaccines created so far seem unlikely to protect people from catching the virus.

For these reasons, much of the emphasis is on preventing people from catching the virus. This meeting is the first major AIDS conference to be held in Asia, where AIDS is now spreading fastest.

HIV already has intruded widely into India, Thailand and Burma. Health officials fear it will become established in many other Asian countries, such as China and Indonesia, where it is now rare.

Worldwide, an estimated 17 million people are already infected with HIV. The World Health Organization predicts that if the virus continues to spread the way it now is doing, the total will reach between 30 million to 40 million by the year 2000.

Saudi paper calls for invasion of Iraq

DOUGLAS DAVIS
LONDON

A senior political correspondent of the Saudi-owned daily *al-Hayat* has called for an international invasion to topple President Saddam Hussein, and the economic sanctions and allow Iraq to break out of its diplomatic isolation.

The so-called "Haiti solution" to the ongoing problems posed by Saddam's continued rule was advocated at the weekend by Karaman Karadaghi, a specialist in Iraq and Kurdish issues.

In a major article in the London-based *al-Hayat*, which circulates throughout the Arab world, Karadaghi asserted that Iraq has no future as long as Saddam remains in power.

The conduct of the Baghdad regime since the end of the Gulf War had shown that it was a "deadly error" to have allowed Saddam to survive, a situation which could have been averted if hostilities had continued for another 24 hours.

Karadaghi warned that if the trade sanctions and arms embar-

goes are lifted, "Baghdad would certainly rebuild its military machine and threaten its neighbors, provoking the problems that have already caused so much harm to the region and to Iraq itself."

As a result of Saddam's continued presence, he noted Iraq's national debt now totals \$1,400 billion - \$100 billion in external debt, \$240 billion in reparations to Kuwait, \$900 billion in reparations to Iran and \$160 billion to cover compensation claims that have been approved by the UN.

As a result of the sanctions, the Iraqi leader is not only exploiting the suffering of his people for propaganda purposes, but is deliberately exacerbating their suffering.

While Iraq claims to have no funds to import food and medicine, it lavishes cash on grandiose construction projects, illegal arms acquisitions abroad and lavish

"solidarity" conferences for foreign guests.

"More to the point, it has largely managed to rebuild its army, despite sanctions and the arms embargo. All this while systematically violating Gulf War resolutions which it accepted in order to halt the allied offensive," Saddam, he notes, still does not recognize Kuwait, while persecution of its own citizens persists unabated.

Despite the UN demand on Iraq to desist from terrorism, an Iraqi squad had attempted to assassinate former US president George Bush in Kuwait in April 1993 and Iraq was also deeply implicated in the bombing of the World Trade Center in New York.

According to Karadaghi, an Iraqi intelligence agent, Ramzi Ahmed Yousef is believed to have masterminded the bombing, aided

by a second Iraq agent, Abderrahman Yassin, who is known to be currently in Baghdad.

He asks why the US has not demanded the extradition of Yassin from Iraq, as it has demanded the extradition of two Libyans who are suspected of complicity in the 1988 Pan Am bombing over the Scottish town of Lockerbie.

He also wonders why the international community has not raised the issue of war crimes charges against Saddam Hussein, Ali Hassan al-Majid and other Iraqi leaders, despite the ample evidence that implicates them in genocide.

Part of the answer, he suggests, is that to do so would be an effective admission by the international community that Saddam was not defeated and that he has not been contained.

"Such an admission could lead to demands that the US review its policy and treats the Iraqi dictator in the same way as it treats the lesser dictators of Haiti."

Germans protest as neo-Nazis rampage

BONN (Reuters) - Police swooped on far-right youths in several parts of eastern Germany at the weekend as protesters rallied against neo-Nazis in the former Nazi death camps at Buchenwald and Bergen-Belsen.

At a ceremony at Bergen-Belsen yesterday to mark the 50th anniversary of the killings of the last Romanies held in the Auschwitz-Birkenau camps, parliament president Rita Suessmuth recalled the 500,000 gypsies gassed to death by the Nazis.

"I am deeply disturbed that gypsies are again today being attacked and threatened," she said at the ceremony, which was called by Association of German Romanies in Lower Saxony state.

In the state of Brandenburg, just outside Berlin, police broke up a gathering of about 30 neo-Nazis late on Saturday, detaining six of them, a spokesman said yesterday.

The rightists shouted "Heil Hitler" and greeted the police with

stiff-arm Nazi salutes.

In Buchenwald on Saturday, about 500 people demonstrated to protest against a neo-Nazi rampage two weeks ago at the camp, where more than 50,000 people were murdered by the Nazis.

Twenty-two right-wing skinheads stormed through the memorial site on July 23, threatening to burn a woman supervisor to death, shouting "Sieg Heil," throwing stones at buildings and giving the Nazi salute.

An organizer of Saturday's rally said they hoped to show the world that the majority of Germans deplored far-right rowdiness and would no longer tolerate it.

"We must transform anger into resistance," said Pierre Dumand, president of the International Buchenwald Committee.

In nearby Gotha, meanwhile, eight young neo-Nazis were detained after booming out taped speeches by Adolf Hitler and right-wing skinhead music from a stereo recorder, police said. Un-

der German law, Nazi propaganda is banned.

The eight - seven youths and a woman aged between 16 and 24 - were detained late on Friday. They were later released pending police investigations, a spokesman said.

Frank Spieth, a trade union leader in Thuringia state, where the former concentration camp is situated, criticised German society for silently tolerating far-right violence.

Suessmuth voiced a similar concern at Bergen-Belsen. "We must ask ourselves whether only a small group of right-wing extremists is to blame, or whether we can also point to a general climate of prejudice and indifference," she said.

Local police have come under fire for failing to prevent the rampage through Buchenwald and for initially detaining only one skinhead. All but one - a woman released for lack of evidence - are now under arrest.

ISRAEL LANDS ADMINISTRATION

ISRAEL LANDS ADMINISTRATION Southern Region

Lease offered on Plot 901 construction of commercial building, Ramot Quarter, Beersheba - Invitation to Tender 214/94/Bet Shin

Bids are invited from those interested in signing a 3 year development agreement, after which those concerned will sign a 49 year lease with an option to extend for another 49 years, for plots, the details and building possibilities of which are:

Urban Building Plan	Block	Part of Parcel	Plot	Approx. Area, sq.m.	Total Construction Area, sq.m.	Minimum Price NIS
1/Bet Mem/5	6-Kid Bet	1	901	2823	1023	1,300,568

* Urban Building Plan 1/Bet Mem/5 shows that a commercial building, with a building percentage of 35 on one floor may be built.

** The minimum price is for the land and development costs.

† Not including VAT.

The Israel Lands Administration reserves the right to accept any bid, or to reject all bids, including the highest. The invitation to tender booklet will be available from August 14, 1994, on submission of a receipt from the Postal Bank for NIS100 (cash only, including VAT), for payment into Israel Lands Administration account 0-241-80-0, per booklet. The booklets will be available at the Israel Lands Administration, Southern Region, Rehov Ben Zvi (above Umat Yisrael), Beersheba, Tel. 07-232202, during regular working hours.

A bank check or guarantee for 10% of the bid total should be attached to bids. Last date for submitting bids: October 26, 1994 (12 noon). A bid not found in the tenders box when it is opened, whatever the reason, cannot be considered.

ISRAEL LANDS ADMINISTRATION Jerusalem Region

Cancellation Notice - Tender 213/94/Yod Mem

This tender, which refers to Plots 137 and 140, for the construction of 30 high-rise housing units in Migdal Tzion, Ashdod, is cancelled.

ISRAEL LANDS ADMINISTRATION - Central Region

Min. of Construction and Housing Petah Tikva Development Co. Petah Tikva Municipality

Correction Notice Residential Construction, Amishav, Petah Tikva (in association framework) The Draw

Petah Tikva Municipality has issued details of building rights, and updated figures of the scope of these rights, in accordance with the Urban Building Plans listed below. The development costs have been updated correspondingly (see table below).

1. General: As part of the scheme to expand the Amishav district of Petah Tikva, the Administration is offering seven lots for the construction of 724 housing units, as detailed below. These plots are to be exploited, in accordance with Urban Building Plans A16/81/255/Bet Mem/Pet Tikva and Bet/

1255/Bet Mem/Pet Tikva. Buildings of four to six floors are to be built, as indicated in the above plans. Details of the lots:

Lot	Plot	Approx. Area, sq.m.	Maximum Area** for Registration, sq.m.	No. of Units on Lot	Payment for Lot** NIS	Payment for Development** NIS
1	401 to 408	5,200	14,080	128	7,466,066	3,744,882
2	409 to 416	5,241	15,040	144	8,144,444	4,064,180
3	417 to 424	5,100	9,240	84	4,900,000	2,422,214
4	425 to 432	3,000	5,940	54	3,048,888	1,502,534
5	433 to 440	3,750	13,420	122	7,487,778	3,576,388
6	441 to 448	5,635	13,420	122	7,070,000	3,408,037
7	449 to 456	7,000	9,100	70	5,771,111	2,772,364

* The lot numbers given above are the lot numbers appearing on the plans.

** Main area only. Does not include area for services, basement, and shelter/men men-dale.

† Figures are 91% of land value.

‡ Not including VAT.

As Neverland meets Graceland, questions arise

STEPHEN WILLIAMS

EITHER it's one of the great publicity stunts of all time, or it's true love.

The aftershock from the bombshell that dropped earlier this week - that Michael Jackson, 35, and Lisa Marie Presley, 26, have wedded in what might be the Nuptials of the Nineties - has yet to be measured, and all kinds of questions remain to be answered:

- What about kids? (Presley is already the mother of two, and she's announced that "we both look forward to raising a family.")
- Why did Jackson's publicists continue to lie about the wedding, weeks after it happened?
- Will they live in Graceland or Neverland?
- Will Bubbles, Michael's chimpanzee, grow jealous?
- Will the honeymoon divert public attention from a criminal investigation of Jackson's alleged sexual molestation of a 13-year-old boy?
- Will Jackson's new album, due in November, sell?

One question that might be put to rest now is Elvis Presley's alive-or-dead status. A confirmed fan of the King, one of the hundreds to congregate in front of Trump Tower in New York City, where the newlyweds are ensconced in a duplex, said Elvis "would roll over in his grave" if he knew about his daughter's choice.

"Well, rest in peace, King. The Jackson-Presley marriage is surely the most sensational - and unlikely - pop alliance in a decade. It dwarfs the Lyle Lovett-Julia Roberts affair and has the news-making potential of Liz Taylor and Richard Burton. The story, though, goes beyond romance, and part of it belongs on the business pages.

The union effectively consolidates a chunk of music-publishing history, since it puts the catalogs of Elvis Presley, Jackson and the Beatles (which Jackson bought several years ago) under one roof. Jackson produced "Thriller," which has sold more than 48 million copies, and he has been proclaimed the biggest-selling record-

ing artist ever.

For months, rumors about the alleged tryst provided grist for the tabloid mills. In her statement issued Monday by MJJ Productions, Presley-Jackson said secrecy was maintained "for several reasons; foremost being that we are both very private people living in the glare of the public media."

Even after the story broke July 11 on the front page of a Santo Domingo newspaper - confirmed by the Dominican Republic judge who married the two in late May - the Jackson camp denied it. "There was no marriage," said spokesman Lee Solters. He said it again and again.

As early as February, the couple was seen together at Jackson's Neverland ranch in California. Even though Lisa Marie reportedly slept in a separate guest house, she and Jackson were seen chatting on a patio and kissing good night.

The May 26 wedding - coming three weeks after Presley divorced musician Danny Keough and began a joint custody arrangement for their children, Benjamin, one, and Danielle, five - was first planned for May 18, but was postponed because of political problems in the Dominican Republic.

The judge, Hugo Alvarez Perez, told reporters that he married the couple in Spanish in his private residence in front of two witnesses and two of Jackson's bodyguards. According to an interview in the Sunday Times of London, Alvarez said Jackson was wearing a shade of lipstick more vivid than his bride's. Jackson said "SI" when asked whether he would take Presley to be his wife, and the two kissed.

The pair is expected to stay in a Trump Tower duplex through the summer. Their suite is directly under Donald Trump's apartment.

Trump, who reportedly put up the pair at his Palm Beach, Fla., estate for a week, has said Jackson and Presley-Jackson are "nice people and I wish them luck."

Whether or not they're nice, they're certainly rich.

"Between the two of them, Michael and his new bride own every



Jackson and his bride Lisa Marie hold hands as they leave a Budapest hospital, where they gave toys to children. (Reuters)

piece of music ever recorded," offered the Boston Globe's Patricia Smith, giving in to a whiff of hyperbole. "In one hour, Graceland pulls in more money selling vinyl of Elvis's sweat than most of us will make in our lifetimes."

The out-of-this-world wedding news - something we've become accustomed to hearing from the Jackson camp - also comes three months before the release of *History: His Story*, a double compact-disc set that will include several new songs as well as a compilation of the *Gloved One's* greatest hits. Sources say Jackson is still working on the project, but shifting

Jackson's publicity from negative to positive may be effective in greasing the promotional chute for the new album.

Negative publicity has swirled about Jackson for a year. He has consistently denied allegations that he abused a prepubescent boy (the lawsuit was settled out of court for an estimated \$5 million to \$20 million). On the heels of the charges, Jackson canceled part of a world tour and confessed he had become addicted to painkillers.

To say this union is forged out of misery is an understatement; the record supports unhappy

show-biz childhoods on both sides. For years Lisa Marie was under the close watch of security protectors; she was at Graceland, the former church that Elvis bought in 1957, when he was found dead there in his bathroom by his girlfriend. Her mother, Priscilla, and father divorced in 1973.

Jackson's turgid history has been regurgitated again and again in the celebrity-mad media. His life as "pop's Peter Pan" has been the stuff that tabloid dreams are made of, and his split personality - the crotch-grabbing, pelvis-thrusting stage act in public, the private

man addicted to painkillers, trying desperately to capture the childhood he never had - has attracted armies of armchair psychiatrists.

The marriage may revive the artistic aspirations of Presley-Jackson, who floated a demo tape some years back to no avail. Her new husband owns the MJJ label.

The marriage may also help business at Graceland; Lisa Marie is the sole heir to the \$100 million estate. A spokeswoman for the mansion said Tuesday that visitors were lined up to walk through Elvis's private Conair 880 four-engine jet there. He named it the Lisa Marie. (Newsday)

Full speed ahead without a destination

FILM REVIEW

ADINA HOFFMAN

SPEED

★★

Directed by Jan De Bont. Screenplay by Graham Yost. Hebrew title: *Speed*. English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Parental guidance suggested.

Jack Traven Keanu Reeves
Harry Temple Jeff Daniels
Annie Sandra Bullock
Howard Dennis Hopper

A lunatic explosives expert has planted a bomb on a Los Angeles bus. If the bus slows to less than 50 miles (80 kilometers) per hour, it will automatically explode. If any passengers attempt to get off, the terrorist will detonate the bomb by remote control.

This isn't a description of a video game but the plot of the movie *Speed*, an absolutely brainless action flick whose simple formal structures probably struck the filmmakers as pretty clever.

While the film's tight confines and its unrelenting fever-pitch do manage to engage us by means of constant forward motion and the sight of lots of crashing, burning, whizzing things (planes, trains and automobiles), these are thrills of the cheapest order.

Strangely static for such a high-velocity movie, *Speed* may make you long for the philosophical profundity and near-Shakespearean characterizations of a film like the *Fugitive*. First-time director Jan De Bont seems to equate *Speed* with shallowness - the faster his characters move, the less compelling they must be.

De Bont has previously worked as a camera man, but *Speed* lacks the visual acuity you might expect from one with his training. Shot with all the ingenuity of a middling TV movie, the film doesn't realize the promise of its terse title.

The movie opens with the hijacking of a crowded skyscraper elevator and zooms along through one or two violently incidental explosions before it careens headlong into the main bus part of the

plot.

Once De Bont has established the kinetic organizing principle (whoever slows down, dies), a sort of dramatic cruise-control sets in.

We witness people - a cop played by Keanu Reeves especially - being brave, but all the risks taken are so calculated, so gratuitously stunt-like, that it's hard to imagine any real harm coming to Reeves or the people he's protecting, which also makes it rather difficult to care.

But maybe the problem is that these aren't people at all - they're plastic game-board pieces, or the rough human equivalent of the Pac Man's phosphorescent fodder. At the end of the video game, when he's eaten his fill, the screen blackens, then swarms with new edible dots, exactly like the old ones. One never gets hurt in Pac Man, and a new coin may forever be inserted to play again. In *Speed*, the same penny-arcade immortality applies.

For the role of Jack Traven, the SWAT team member at the cool center of all the frenetic freeway activity of *Speed*, Reeves has hacked off his long Buddha locks and donned a flak jacket, but he hasn't changed his attitude.

In a sense, he always plays the same part he did in Bertolucci's ghastly *Little Buddha* - Siddhartha the Surfer. He does it again here, posing and swaggering and chewing his lines like day-old bubble gum.

As the Buddha he was silly and stiff, but his presence did add a bit of camp humor to the otherwise funeral pageantry. In *Speed* his performance is also botched, but without any of the same somber hilarity. The thin script by Graham Yost is also to blame for Reeves' acting - there's nothing at all to Traven, and Reeves plays him accordingly.

The only other ostensible characters are Annie (Sandra Bullock), a perky passenger who



Keanu Reeves plays Jack Traven, the SWAT team member at the cool center of all the frenetic freeway activity of *Speed*.

winds up driving the bus and flirting with Jack at high speeds, and the bad guy - played with the perfunctory loose marbles by Dennis Hopper, veteran screen psycho.

Hopper does not do much here besides cackle sometimes and throw an occasional tantrum. Still, it is his movie. His motivation for performing such random, violent acts is not entirely clear; but then

again, nor is the filmmakers' motivation clear.

Yost and De Bont can moralize all they want about the threat one madman poses to the lives of innocent people, but in the end they'll side with the bomber. They, too, get a perverse thrill from blowing things up, forcing hairpin turns and heaving cars into concrete

Tales of friendship - with strings attached

HELEN KAYE

FIFTEEN-month-old Julian puts a Lego brick on his finger, wiggles it and talks to it.

"He watches us rehearsing and imitates what we do," says his mother Cecilia Gechtman. She and her husband, Pablo Palacios, are the Il Picaporte puppet theater of Italy which will perform *Takeaway Stories* at the International Puppet Festival tomorrow and Wednesday.

Takeaway Stories is a series of utterly beguiling non-verbal vignettes. There's a lonely monkey who thinks maybe life would be better if he were a butterfly, a frog, or maybe a worm, until Miss Monkey happens along; then there's the story of a flower whose beauty two little creatures cultivate together.

These tales have brotherhood as their theme, as does *Somewhere in the World*, the new show Palacios is developing in which two quarrelsome villagers are sent on a quest to find the most important thing in the world - friendship.

Palacios, 30, was born in Uruguay; when the military took over in 1973 his family emigrated to Argentina. Gechtman, 35, is from Buenos Aires, where the two met at puppetry school.

He has been a puppeteer for about 12 years. Gechtman half that time, but initially neither thought of puppetry as a career. Palacios' brother "was into puppets," he says in Spanish, interpreted by his wife, "but I thought it was silly. Then one day my brother's friend asked me to help at a show." Grudgingly he agreed

and soon "I found myself more enchanted than the kids."

She finished her master's in chemistry and even started some research, "but it wasn't what I wanted," says Gechtman in the excellent Hebrew she learned attending grade school in Ramle in 1963-66. She started volunteer work with children in deprived neighborhoods "and took a little puppetry course just to help me work with the kids, and suddenly I discovered a whole wide world."

In 1990 the couple went to Italy where they founded Il Picaporte. The name means "door knob," in Italian, "because we're opening doors into that different world," says Gechtman. They play in schools and also do street theater.

For the last two months they've been here, visiting with Gechtman's parents who live in Holon; they've also performed on Friday mornings a shortened version of *Takeaway Stories* at the Nahlat Binyamin crafts fair.

Il Picaporte shares the stage with a wide range of shows for children and all the family including four premieres. These are *Barabbas's Circus*, *A Touch of Light* (the story of Louis Braille), *The Marzipan Fairy*, all from the Train Theater (the festival's producer), and *The Magic Bulb*, a retelling of the *Peer Gynt* legend, from Bubina.

During intermission, members of the audience sought out Kopytman and asked him to autograph their programs.

But there were more than Israeli orchestras at the SHMF this summer: Pianist Gilead Mishory, who lives in Germany most of the year, presented a recital with a narrator before a full house in the picturesque castle at Plohn.

The Yoram Boker Mime Theater was warmly received by audiences of all ages in Rendsburg, and young Israeli musicians performed in several festival locales as well.

By the end of the two months of the festival, more than 100 concerts will have been given at about 35 locations: some traditional concert venues, but most ad hoc, such as barns and churches.

Most concerts have been sold out well in advance; overall this summer, more than 85 percent of all seats have been filled.

Dancing for the love of a child

HELEN KAYE

THE birth of their son Irad 15 months ago is one of the influences that drives *Ana Oumi*, the newest dance by Liat Dror and Nir Ben-Gal.

"It shows up in the bath sequence, sort of like a mother bathing her son, and in the balance between dependence and independence that permeates the whole dance," says Dror, who with her husband returns to the dance floor in this work.

A big, half-filled bathtub is also metaphor for purification in this work - set to one of the 47 versions of *Ana Oumi* ("You Are My Soul") by Egyptian singer Oum Kalsoum, arranged and

edited by Anik Hayut.

The 75-minute piece for six dancers will premiere at the Suzanne Dellal Center on Thursday.

It begins with Dror moving sinuously in what Ben-Gal describes as "elements of the belly dance centered on work with the pelvis."

The Hebrew for pelvis means basin, the same word used to describe the Mediterranean basin.

Belly dance elements are part of a work that examines different kinds of contact between people - from kindness to brutality.

Ana Oumi is financed in part by Germany's Hebbel Theater, where the pair will become artists in residence next year.

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Cuckoos in the nest

It really is time the Western democracies sorted out their policies on Islamic fundamentalism. While Paris yesterday was putting its citizens and legitimate guests to great inconvenience in a police sweep to counter savage extremist threats against the state, London was blithely hosting a gathering of anti-Western, anti-democratic, antisemitic fundamentalists dedicated to establishing a world Islamic Khalifate.

With the usual bizarre indifference to the truth common to fanatics and familiar in the departed Orwellian world of the KGB, the organizers said the conference was a "family meeting" to discuss political and cultural issues like human rights and the Islamic religious revival. Adding insult to credulity, they paraded the ancient canard that the participants were merely anti-Israel because of its "international war on all Moslems."

After this anodyne public relations spiel for the presumably gullible British citizen, the 7,000 spiritual human rights activists and culture vultures settled back to give thunderous applause to a string of anti-Israel tirades, to calls for the overthrow of all existing Arab governments "subservient to Britain, the United States and France" and to a lashing of the Western media for "equating Islamic fundamentalists with terrorists."

Dr. Israr Ahmed, from Pakistan's Tanzeem al Islami group, said there could be no peace or security for Moslems without the creation of a universal, fundamentalist Islamic state. "The period of colonial rule may appear to have come to an end," he said, "but it is still continuing. We are ruled and controlled indirectly... Islamic rulers today are the viceroys of America." This is the classic rhetorical style perfected by communist dictatorships where warmongers, human rights abusers and subverters of freedom were wont to put "the enemy" on the defensive by accusing it of the sins of the accusers.

The International Moslem Khalifah Conference - the biggest-ever gathering of Islamic fundamentalists outside the Middle East - was organized in the main by a rabidly militant student group, Hizb ut-Tahrir, accused by British Jewish monitors of inciting attacks on Jews and Israelis. Hizb ut-Tahrir has also perfected the skills of double-speak. "There is nobody antisemitic who is going to be at this conference, there is nobody anti-Jewish," said its spokesman, Farid Kassim. "There have been a lot of claims in the media over anti-Jewish sentiment. This highlights how much Moslems are disenfranchised in Britain... we deeply regret that the media is responsible for such tensions."

Regrettable indeed that the media reported the

bomb attacks on the Israeli embassy and Jewish cultural center in London - events which of course would have nothing to do with raising the tension surrounding a conference of the worst extremists in the Islamic world. After this fine display of indignation at his news conference, Kassim let himself down by adding somewhat lamely: "Of course we can't guarantee there won't be any terrorists here, because in any crowd there could be terrorists." Pro-Jewish terrorists, presumably.

That someone like Kassim should be able to gloss over total lies like British Moslems being disenfranchised without serious challenge, is profoundly depressing, though it will surprise no one in this part of the world. That such people can get away with mouthing the liberal catch-phrases of human rights, tolerance, and democracy is an outrage. To prolonged applause the conference speakers accused Israel of waging a relentless worldwide war against Moslems. One can only wonder, considering Israel's ruthless efficiency, why there is a single Moslem still left in this country, much less why Moslem representatives sit in the Knesset, why the Palestinians are being given control of their own affairs, why their holy places are rigorously preserved, and why the king of a foreign Moslem state is being guaranteed custodial rights over important shrines in the state capital.

The question is why this charade was sanctioned in the first place. True, the British pride themselves on their tolerance. But to give facilities in one of the world's freest cities to fundamentalist regressives calling for the overthrow of Arab governments friendly to Britain, and calling for war on other democratic states, is stretching tolerance beyond reasonable limits. The conference is an insult not only to Jews, democrats and Britain's friends, but to the country's own integrated multi-racial Moslem community. If all Moslems are being equated with terrorism, it is hardly the media's fault when a conference such as this actively sets out to attract media coverage.

Algeria is the current forceful example of what a "united fundamentalist Islamic world" has to offer the rest of us, Moslems included. France's Interior Minister Charles Pasqua last week accused Britain of failing to cooperate against Islamic terrorism and of not responding to tip-offs about locally based Islamic fundamentalist supporters. One can only hope that the British government's motivation for allowing this conference is to allow the intelligence services to update their records on some of those terrorists whom Kassim admitted "might be in any crowd."



What's in it for Assad?

THE Rabin government is approaching the conclusion of a deal with Syria's Hafez Assad.

Yitzhak Rabin says differences remain over the depth of withdrawal from the Golan Heights. But there is no doubt that Assad will accept nothing less than total withdrawal. I say this on the basis of many hours of discussions with the Syrian delegation in Madrid and Washington and on the logic of the Syrian position.

Assad does not need the narrow strip (10.5km. to 14.7km. wide) for economic reasons or to ensure access to water sources. He is insisting on Syrian sovereignty to the last inch for two important reasons: national prestige and strategic considerations.

He is anxious to remove the Israeli presence from Mt. Hermon and from the Heights since this gives Israel an effective and time-proven deterrent, as well as real-time warning of any aggressive move by the Syrian army.

Moreover, Syrian sovereignty on the Golan will enable Assad or his successor to use the commanding heights to threaten or attack Israel.

Rabin, who desperately wants to ride the current wave to reach the crowning achievement of peace with Syria, will deliver the Golan Heights to Assad, in direct contradiction of solemn declarations he made during the election campaign. Israel's gain from this deal will be trumpeted by the government as a super-historic breakthrough to "real" peace, or, as the prime minister likes to describe it, a "strategic" peace that would put an end to the conflict with Israel's immediate neighbors.

In order to judge the true import of the Israeli-Syrian deal and the degree to which it contains a balance of interests, both bilateral and regional, it is important to focus on what Assad stands to gain from it, over and above the retrieval of the Golan Heights.

• Syria will be removed from the US list of states that sponsor terrorism. Assad will assure Secretary

YOSEF BEN-AHARON

Christopher that he will remove the terrorist bases from Syrian territory, but they will undoubtedly continue to operate, either from Syria proper, under cover, or from Lebanon, under the protection of the Syrian army.

• In spite of promises to the contrary, Syria will continue to facilitate the massive drug trade from Lebanon. Syrian officials have assured US Drug Enforcement

He'll be getting much more than the Golan Heights, and giving much less than peace

Agency officials that they have prohibited the growing of plants that are used to produce such drugs as heroin and hashish. But recent information shows that the raw materials are still clandestinely imported and processed in the Bekaa Valley and exported to Europe and America.

• Syria will continue to occupy Lebanon, no matter what assurances Assad gives the US and Israel that he will respect the sovereignty and integrity of his tiny and unfortunate neighbor. Assad, one of the world's experts in totalitarian rule, will produce a solemn Lebanese government declaration that, in the context of close brotherly relations with Syria, it has requested the continued stationing of the Syrian army in Lebanon to maintain its stability and defend it against foreign threats.

• Syria will maintain its close relationship with Tehran. Iran neutralizes a possible threat to Syria from Iraq. The two countries benefit from mutual economic relations. In addition, the Iranian gov-

ernment serves as a useful pipeline for the acquisition of advanced weaponry, including parts and equipment for the assembly and production of nonconventional weapons.

In return, Assad will continue to allow Iranian involvement in the affairs of the large Shi'ite community in Lebanon, including the training and arming of their militias and terrorist organizations, such as Hizbullah.

• The agreement with Syria will include various provisions for the demilitarization of a limited area on the Golan Heights certain limitations on the deployment of military units and arms. But Assad will insist on total freedom to maintain, develop and equip his army with the most advanced and sophisticated equipment and will argue that Israel aside, he is facing defense challenges from other neighbors, such as Iraq, as well as security problems from Kurdish underground groups and Islamic fundamentalist organizations.

THE SUPREME irony of this turn of events is that Syria will be able to threaten Israel on two fronts - from Lebanon and from the Golan. In addition, virtually all the factors that prompted reservations concerning the Assad regime on the part of the democracies will remain unchanged. The only exception will be the contractual end of the state of war with Israel.

Syria will continue to occupy Lebanon, to provide a haven for terrorist organizations, to benefit from a massive and illicit drug trade, to pose a threat to the region; and it will not abandon its efforts to acquire and develop nonconventional weapons.

This is the deal that Rabin will have us believe signifies a "strategic" and lasting peace that will put an end to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The writer, a former director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, headed Israel's negotiating team with Syria from the Madrid peace talks through June 1992.

Haunted dreams

DANIEL SCHORR

BECAUSE of the Watergate matter, I might not have the support of the Congress that I would consider necessary to ... carry out the duties of this office ...

Thus, disingenuous to the bitter end, Richard Nixon chose to announce, 20 years ago today, that he was resigning the presidency to avoid capital gridlock, not to escape certain impeachment and trial.

Nixon used to observe anniversaries of his inaugurations, but understandably not of his resignation. I can imagine him saying today, "Surely 20 years of Watergate must be enough."

But it is not yet time to end the wallowing. New facts and facets illuminating his attempted putsch against the Constitution continue to emerge.

I harbor no personal animus against Nixon. Twenty-three years ago he had the FBI investigate me, and I figured on his "enemies list." But, once he was out of office, I gained a certain respect for his 21-year effort at self-rehabilitation.

But combining the latest revelations on Watergate for a better understanding of why it all happened, I arrive at a new realization of how prone Nixon was to act on false premises bordering on self-delusion. He not only said things that were untrue, but apparently believed things that were untrue, and

For Nixon, the line between deception and self-deception was blurred

the line between deception and self-deception was often blurred.

Here are four examples: • The Bay of Pigs "Secrets." President Nixon spoke often to aides about some deeply concealed scandal - an assassination, or something on that order - connected with the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in 1961 and involving President Kennedy and the CIA. He saw it as something that could be used as ammunition against his political opponents.

Meeting with H.R. Haldeman, John Ehrlichman and John Mitchell on September 18, 1971, Nixon said he wanted the "full secret file" on the Bay of Pigs delivered to him by the CIA, "or else!"

• The Diem Assassination "Plot." It is a matter of record that the Kennedy administration supported the coup that resulted in the ouster and death of South Vietnamese President Ngo Dinh Diem on November 1, 1963. But Nixon spoke as though he believed that Kennedy was personally responsible for Diem's assassination, and he repeatedly issued orders to his aides to come up with the proof.

• The "Bugged" Campaign Plane. It was an article of faith for Nixon that all the dirty tricks, surveillance and wiretaps he sponsored were simply getting back at Democrats who had done the same things. He often said that in 1968 the FBI had bugged his campaign plane on orders from President Johnson.

He felt sure enough of his supposition to use it as a weapon to try to forestall a Senate Watergate investigation.

• The Hughes-O'Brien Threat. If one looks for the Nixon phobia that was most directly responsible for the Watergate break-in, it was the fear that Democratic national chairman Lawrence O'Brien possessed some dreadful secret about Nixon dealings with the eccentric industrialist, Howard Hughes, that would be sprung to damage Nixon at some crucial moment.

Since 1968, O'Brien had been on a retainer of some \$200,000 a year from the Hughes organization. Robert Maheu, executive director of Hughes Enterprises, had handled an illegal "campaign" contribution of \$100,000 from Hughes, given in cash after the 1968 campaign to the president's friend, Bebe Rebozo, and held in a safe-deposit box in Key Biscayne, Florida, as a kind of secret nest egg for the president.

In May 1972, as plans were made for the Gordon Liddy "political intelligence project," word sifted down from on high that O'Brien was to be a principal target.

Only slowly did it dawn on Liddy that the purpose of the two break-ins at Democratic National Committee headquarters in the Watergate was "to find out what O'Brien had of a derogatory nature about us, not for us to get something off him."

All those demons and dragons - the Kennedys, their henchmen, the FBI and CIA and who knows what else - that haunted Nixon's dreams, beckoning him to misuse of power that would destroy his presidency. Twenty years later, does it matter? Yes, it does.

Since Nixon, no president has been fully trusted. For a long time to come, none may be. That may be the final legacy of the driven man who almost drove constitutional government off the rails.

The writer, a senior news analyst for National Public Radio, was three television "Enemies" covering Watergate for CBS News. (Washington Post)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SEXISTS OF A FEATHER

Sir, - Lawyer Alan Dershowitz is quoted in the article "Weizman adviser: President isn't sexist" (J.P., July 24) as having described President Weizman as a "terrible sexist." Based on the president's remarks at a recent conference of 20 Jewish community leaders which Dershowitz attended, Leon Charney, legal adviser, aide and close friend of President Weizman, dismissed these charges as misinterpretation derived from the fact that Dershowitz had "not been in Israel enough times to understand the mentality of the people here or their president."

As Israelis from The Women's Network, we, unlike Charney, feel that chauvinism is chauvinism wherever you come from. We find, as does Mr. Dershowitz, that when a woman who speaks up at a conference of Jewish leaders is answered with, "Oh, you're so pretty," it is not "humorous" nor "amusing."

We do not consider remarks of this nature any less offensive when placed within the context of broader Israeli

society. On the contrary, by holding that as an outsider Dershowitz is incapable of understanding the significance of such a comment, Charney betrays his own misunderstanding. Sexism spans cultures and experiences and is easily recognized by anyone who has been a victim of it.

Michal Yudelman writes, "[Charney] added that he did not know of any women who were hurt by anything the president said." Maybe Mr. Charney has forgotten Alice Miller, who appealed to Weizman for aid in admission to the pilots course in the IDF. "You don't see men knitting socks" was part of the president's response.

Perhaps Mr. Charney missed the media coverage of the public response to the Miller case. But most likely, Charney's defense of President Weizman verifies that birds of a feather do flock together, even on the lawns of the president's house.

RACHEL GARTNER
The Israel Women's Network
Jerusalem.

LACK OF CIVIL RIGHTS

Sir, - I am becoming increasingly aware of the lack of civil rights for Jews in the country of Israel. It is incomprehensible that if there is a threat of Arab rioting on the Temple Mount, Jews are not permitted to go to the holiest of Jewish shrines.

In fact it is incomprehensible that Jews are not allowed, even as individuals, to utter any prayer on the Temple Mount.

It is also difficult to understand that even when it comes to praying at the Western Wall (second holiest shrine for Jews), that if there is a threat by Arabs, the privilege of being at the Western Wall is rescinded for Jews. It seems to me that if there is a threat of rioting by Arabs that they are the ones who should not be allowed access to the Temple area.

Administrative detention is deployed by all democratic countries. It is high time that Israel not mouth the word democracy but put it into action. It is the democratic way to bring up detainees on charges and try them in the courts as soon as possible. Leaving people in prison to rot is only detrimental to Israel's image.

One other peculiarity of Israel's society is the idea that one can enter a printing shop and confiscate posters which advertise a demonstration on the charge that it is in illegal one. Who has decided that a particular demonstration which has not yet taken place is illegal? Only secret police operate this way.

TOBY WILLIG
Jerusalem.

BUSY POLICE

Sir, - In reply to Ben-Zion Wolf's letter asking "Where's the Police?" (J.P., August 1) when she's traveling through Silwan, Jericho and Kiryat Arba; I reply: Probably giving "executive" (her word, not mine) protection to demonstrators marching around Hebron.

R. WOLF
Ra'anana.

ANGLOS AGAINST PORNOGRAPHY

Sir, - At last the sordid matter of the 056 "services" has come before some government agencies. By dialing this number one can listen to a woman's voice giving detailed descriptions of all kinds of sexual activities. This is just one facet of the recent invasion of pornography in Israel.

Over the last few years most of our Hebrew papers have become swarming bulletin boards of brothels, offers of homosexual sex, gigolos and all kinds of perversions.

There is absolutely no reason why this blatant pornography has to exist. We should lobby all kinds of people, starting with President Weizman and going down the line. A few hundred letters would do the trick.

The 056 "service" is not only transmitted in Israel, but several companies also send it out to foreign countries. Girl students who have mastered foreign languages are reportedly employed to send it abroad. What a travesty of the prophet who said: "For out of Zion shall go forth the Law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem."

Isn't it about time that we ordinary people made our voices heard about this garbage?

S. JACOBY
Tel Aviv.

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Blind Eye

Africa Allows Its Tragedies Take Their Own Course

By BILL KELLER

CAPE TOWN
IF it takes the spectacle of open mass graves and children sobbing over their dead mothers to prick American interest in Africa, that is not so difficult to understand. Africans are far away. They don't supply American needs or threaten American interests. Their problems often seem beyond comprehension, let alone fixing. Even the sainted Mahatma Gandhi, who spent 21 years in Africa, was mainly concerned about justice for his own people, the Indian immigrants here, not about Africans. The outside world's usual indifference to Africa can be deplored, but at least it can be explained.

How, though, to explain Africa's indifference to itself?

For however inadequate critics may consider the White House airlift or the French peacekeeping mission called in after Rwanda's genocidal implosion, these are acts of bounteous compassion compared to what Africans themselves have done in this and other tragedies.

The United Nations has elicited isolated acts of generosity from African countries —

The degree of outrage at atrocities and oppression can depend on who is involved.

some trucks here, some cash there — but they are little and late. A few countries volunteered peacekeepers, but even that was not as altruistic as it seems; Zimbabwe, for example, has rented its restive, unemployed soldiers to the United Nations, pocketing much of their pay for the treasury. The Organization of African Unity, the collective voice of African states, has been "helpless and hopeless" on Rwanda, said a United Nations official in the field.

The evisceration of Rwanda, the political paralysis of Nigeria, the anarchy of Somalia, the near-collapse of Zaire, the hemorrhage of Angola — these and other tragedies of the continent arouse mostly diplomatic tut-tuts from their African neighbors, rarely outrage, or ostracism, or aid, or intervention.

Of course, inaction in the face of disaster can be explained by the fact that few African nations are in any condition to sort out the mess of their continent. Scarcely coherent states themselves, they have little money to spare and little power to project in the rescue of other failing nations. Nor do they have a mandate to do so.

"In post-colonial Africa, people have become totally alienated from the state," said Peter Vale, professor of southern Africa Studies at the University of the Western Cape. "States are seen as partnerships of predatory elites. Part of that alienation is to withdraw."

Even President Nelson Mandela, who presides over the continent's richest state and



African countries have long been indifferent to ethnic conflicts of their neighbors. Here, displaced Tutsis waited in a refugee camp near the Rwandan border earlier this year.

perhaps its most popular and legitimate one, decided his new Government was too fragile to play a direct role in Rwanda. (South Africa sent medical supplies and offered the loan of some armored police vehicles.)

But pleas of poverty, however truthful, also can seem a short-sighted rationalization of inaction. It is not as if these horrid dramas are self-contained. The tribal civil wars and insurrections almost always spill across borders. If neighbors had invested some effort in halting the ethnic killing between Hutus and Tutsis in Rwanda, which has raged off and on for more than three decades, perhaps Zaire and Tanzania would not now be straining under the burden of two million refugees.

Moreover, Africa had no trouble mustering

an angry consensus when the offending nation was South Africa. During the decades of apartheid, African states provided funding and sanctuary for liberation groups, and helped make the apartheid Government a pariah state.

Choosing Not to Judge

The difference was that the offenders were whites, who were brazen enough to elevate their claim of superiority to a civil religion and give it a name. For Africans (as, indeed, for many Americans), it was the last battle in the great crusade against colonial oppression, a satisfyingly clear-cut choice.

"Had it only been Mandela versus the

Zulus, how many people would have been interested?" asks Robert Oakley, who was special envoy to Somalia for Presidents Bush and Clinton.

When it comes to promoting human rights and ethnic equality when the offenders are black, however, few African leaders have much to say, because few have the comforting perspective of the moral high ground.

"When they look at a Rwanda, it makes them all very nervous," said Mr. Oakley. "Because it's either happening or could happen to them."

Indeed, said Kole Omotoso, a Nigerian professor of comparative literature and a writer on African politics, African leaders have actively promoted ethnic hatred when it

served their interests of controlling their populations or destabilizing neighbors.

In Rwanda, to take just the latest of many instances, it is fashionable to blame the French for formerly supporting the Hutu government that launched the slaughter of the Tutsi minority. Rarely mentioned is the fact that the Hutus' more intimate ally was neighboring Zaire (and the Tutsis' was Uganda). Zaire still fuels a partly ethnic civil bloodletting in Angola; Nigeria and Ivory Coast have helped carve up Liberia; the list goes on.

"These governments have all been involved surreptitiously in the brewing of the

Continued on page 4

Government Health Insurance

An Idea Whose Time Has Come? It Came in 1965.

By ROBIN TONER

WASHINGTON
OF the many strange experiences in the health care struggle of 1994, several lawmakers have found this to be among the strangest: an angry encounter with an elderly constituent, railing against the idea of government involvement in the health care system, declaring categorically, as one woman did to Representative Louise Slaughter, "I don't want government messing in health insurance."

The elderly are, of course, beneficiaries of a government health insurance program, one of the most popular domestic programs around, signed into law 29 years ago after a long debate on the very question of whether government should be involved in guaranteeing health care to a vast segment of the American people. Sometimes, a frustrated group of Democratic lawmakers say, it is as if the debate over Medicare never happened; how else to explain why it is happening all over again?

Many people do not even think of Medicare as a government program, according to the American Association of Retired Persons. Many people clearly do not see the argument over government involvement in health care — or, for that matter, an array of other social needs, from unemployment to pensions — as a settled issue, or even one with much of a history. And, judging from the polls, many people seem achingly vulnerable to slogans like "socialized medicine," "billion-dollar bureaucracies" and a "government takeover of the health care system." The past, as William Faulkner put it, is not dead. It isn't even past.

The debate now raging on Capitol Hill is, to a striking extent, often simply variations on the themes set forth in the Medicare struggle of the 1960's, not to mention President Harry Truman's unsuccessful effort to win national health insurance in 1949 and the debate over Social Security in the 1930's. Shortly before the final passage of Medicare, the American Medical Association was warning in full-page newspaper ads of "long waiting lines at doctors' offices," of "mountains of red tape" and

of "delays of weeks and months for needed surgery."

The association concluded, with all the urgency and solemnity at its command: "Even at this late hour, we cannot — in good faith to our patients — stand silent as Congress prepares to start this nation on a dangerous adventure in government medicine, the end of which no one can see, and from which the patient is certain to be the ultimate sufferer."

That was a trace more formal than the warnings of "Harry and Louise," the current television spokespersons for the Health Insurance Association of America, but the thoughts are much the same. "Long waits for health care and some services not even available," Louise fretted as she pored over a health care proposal in one commercial. Anxious Harry chimed in, "Government-controlled health care."

Then as now, the role of government was central to the debate on Capitol Hill. In 1965, leading House Republicans also pushed for a "voluntary" approach to the problem, arguing that only those who wanted to participate in Medicare should be required to pay premiums.

Democrats pushed for an all-inclusive system financed by a payroll tax. (In today's parlance, a mandate.) Conservatives in both parties warned that the country was poised at the crest of a slippery slope. "Let us not take this first step toward socialized medicine," Representative Joe R. Pool, Democrat of Texas, pleaded on the floor of the House.

Last week, Senator Phil Gramm of Texas, surrounded by several of his Republican colleagues, stood on the lawn of the Capitol and declared that if the advocates of universal health care rallying in Washington that day "want socialized medicine," they could have it. But Mr. Gramm vowed to fight it tooth and nail. "I know the First Lady is passionate about this," Mr. Gramm declared. "I know it's the President's dream to take over and run the health care system. The future of America is at stake in this bill."

This debate dismays many advocates of health care restructuring, who had hoped by this point to be engaged

Continued on page 2



Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas

Hard to Believe
Mexico's
credibility
gap is more
like a
crevasse.

By Anthony
DePalma

4



Clinton vs. Monroe
Haiti, the
U.N. and a
certain
famous
doctrine.

By Elaine Sciolino

4



Happy Birthday!
Woodstock is
25. Barbie is
35. The shirt
is 1,000.

By Francis X.
Clines

3

Ideas & Trends

Stones on a Roll: As Cynical as Ever

By JON PARELES

ASK any rock pioneers if they expected to make a career out of music, and the answer is no. Rock was a lark, a youthful folly; of course, the fun would run out sooner or later. But 32 years after Mick Jagger and Keith Richards got together to knock out some Chicago blues, the Rolling Stones are headlining stadiums once again. Their new album, "Voodoo Lounge," entered the charts at No. 2, held out of No. 1 only by the Disney juggernaut of "The Lion King."

Their current tour started in Washington last week and is booked, often for multiple nights, at stadiums around the country, including Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J. They are a proud anomaly: In a business that prizes youth and novelty, the Stones — whose average age is 50 — are still superstars.

None of the Stones' British Invasion contemporaries, and few other bands from the 1960's, can still reach both old fans and the record-buying masses. The Grateful Dead sell out stadium tours every year, but their albums stall commercially. Other 1960's bands have fallen apart, retired or continue to soldier on along the lounge and state-fair circuit. Only the Stones survive at the top.

There are good reasons, at least in hindsight, for the Rolling Stones' longevity. For one thing, the band members never got paunchy; they still look lean and hungry, even if they're multimillionaires. The Stones have also been strategic, careful not to overexpose themselves. After releasing an album or two a year into the mid-1970's, they let the gap stretch to two years, then longer; "Voo-

Their shrewd sense of style and musicianship sells to old fans and the masses.

doo Lounge" is their first studio album since "Steel Wheels" in 1989, though a live album from the tour, "Flashpoint," appeared in 1991.

Each Stones tour is a stadium spectacle, trading not only on the band's charisma but on razzle-dazzle effects, and the band's inexorable aging brings the possibility ever closer that every tour is the final one. But the Stones aren't singing "This could be the last time"; their current concert opens with "Not Fade Away."

But strategy wouldn't matter if the songs grew dated. The Stones learned their tricks from Chuck Berry and Chicago blues records, then perfected a band sound that seems eternal: an amalgam of steadfast drumming and wiry, syncopated lead and rhythm guitars that echoes through generations of rock, from Aerosmith to John Mellencamp to Liz Phair.

The Stones' perspective, too, is rooted not in the ephemeral optimism of pop but in the hard-headed perseverance of the blues, laced with the band's own flippant irony. Wine goes bad but vinegar lasts. With a few exceptions the Stones never offered a happily-ever-after world of lovers' bliss, and the blunt terms of

their come-ons — "Let's Spend the Night Together," with no long-term guarantees — meant that they didn't break any promises. "Satisfaction," their signature song, started out as a national anthem of adolescence and still wraps the malaise of consumer society in an indelible riff.

Mr. Jagger has always been one of rock's wildest sex symbols. He was never Mr. Nice Guy. Occasionally, a vicious, immature misogyny surfaces in Stones songs, most recently in the new "I Go Wild." Mr. Jagger's lips and tongue, which became the band's logo, have made him King Leer. "I've got nasty habits," he bragged in "Live With Me," a song that exaggerated the Stones' already well-documented excesses and decadence, way back in 1971. The Stones were rude

without apology, never needing spin control because they never pretended to be virtuous. Every problem the band had, from drug busts to the killing of an audience member while the Stones performed at the Altamont concert in 1969, only made their legend more vivid. Baby boomers could depend on the Stones to live out fantasies of hedonism and self-indulgence, then regroup for another well-honed album.

A final factor is the band's coherence. It has had three lead guitarists — Brian Jones, followed by Mick Taylor and, after 1975, Ron Wood — but has remained otherwise unchanged until the retirement of the bassist Bill Wyman. Individually, the Stones aren't blockbusters; Mr. Jagger's solo albums don't scale the Top 10. Stones fans want the

whole package, especially the mysterious chemistry between the hyperactive, articulate Mr. Jagger and the laconic but cutting Mr. Richards. Their partnership, which is periodically rumored to be finished, is one of rock's unexplained wonders.

The Stones, who are not getting any younger, are showing some wear. "Voodoo Lounge" received widely mixed, often disparaging, reviews, and the concert set sags noticeably before blasting off in its last half-hour.

But if the Stones are a long way from their artistic peak — roughly 1967 to 1972 — they also have nothing more to prove. That they are out on the road at all, much less filling stadiums, says that they, too, believe in their own rock-and-roll fantasy.



The Rolling Stones have put a spell on audiences throughout their 32-year career. The middle-aged rockers opened their "Voodoo Lounge" world tour last Tuesday at the Robert F. Kennedy Stadium in Washington.

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Your Gift Search is Over

An Idea Whose Time Really Came in 1965

Continued from page 1

In a discussion of *Alternative means* to an agreed-upon end, rather than a replay of an ideological fight, Bob Blendon, an expert on public opinion and health issues at Harvard, said that the fears and the rhetoric about "socialized medicine" are not nearly as vehement nor as widespread as they were in the past, particularly in the jittery post-war America of 1949.

But the fears about government have a rich and fertile context of their own in the current debate: Since the passage of Medicare, Mr. Blendon noted, there has been a 30-year trend of diminishing faith in government.

Conservatives are keenly aware of this. "The liberal-social democratic agenda ultimately won the battle from the end of World War II through the mid-60's, and Medicare was part of that victory," said William Kristol, a conservative theoretician who has closely tracked the health care issue. "I think you could make the case that the liberal-social democratic agenda has been in retreat for the last 15 or 20 years. Clinton is trying to reverse it, and he is running into great skepticism."

Mr. Kristol sees the health struggle as an opportunity to define the Republican Party "as a party that resists further advances of the welfare state, and ultimately of relimiting government."

The flip side to this, of course, is the Democrats' struggle to reclaim their image as the party that uses government to deliver popular new benefits to the middle class. Given both parties' strategic imperatives, it was almost inevitable that this would become an ideological debate about government.

When Harry and Louise fret on TV, you can hear echoes of the nightmares conjured to fight Medicare.

Beneath the partisan positioning, though, some analysts see an enduring contradiction in the American psyche. Lawmakers fight these battles again and again because they can never be resolved.

"Americans have in their heads a contradiction," said Stan Greenberg, the White House pollster, "distilling government and strongly supporting individualism, at the same time they're very strong supporters of a whole range of things we do together as a people, from Social Security to unemployment compensation."

Even Mr. Gramm seems to harbor this contradiction. After railing about the evils of government involvement in health care last week, he was asked how he would have voted on Medicare in 1965.

"I don't have the foggiest idea because I wasn't part of the debate," the former economics professor replied. "I would surely have been concerned about the costs, which turned out to be off by a factor of 10. But not having been there, I don't know."

And yes, Mr. Gramm's mother is covered by Medicare.

They Were There

The last time that members of Congress had a sweeping piece of health-care legislation before them was 29 years ago, when the Medicare program won approval. Here are the 1965 votes of those legislators who were in Congress then and now face a new health-care vote.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

IN FAVOR

Tom Foley (D-Washington)
Dan Rostenkowski (D-Illinois)
Sid Yates (D-Illinois)
John Dingell (D-Michigan)
Bill Ford (D-Michigan)
John Conyers (D-Michigan)
Jack Brooks (D-Texas)
Henry Gonzalez (D-Texas)
Kika de la Garza (D-Texas)
Lee Hamilton (D-Indiana)
Don Edwards (D-California)
George Brown (D-California)
Neal Smith (D-Iowa)
Joe McDade (R-Pennsylvania)
Sam Gibbons (D-Florida)

OPPOSED

Jamie Quillen (R-Tennessee)
Bob Michel (R-Illinois)
Jamie Whitten (D-Mississippi)

Bob Dole* (R-Kansas)
J. J. Pickle (D-Texas)

*Mr. Dole is now a member of the Senate

SENATE

IN FAVOR

Robert C. Byrd (D-West Virginia)
Claiborne Pell (D-Rhode Island)
Edward M. Kennedy (D-Massachusetts)
Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii)

OPPOSED

Strom Thurmond (R-South Carolina)



Senator Kennedy in 1965



Senator Dole in 1970

Unforgettable, That's What It All Is, and Isn't

By FRANCIS X. CLINES

NOW that the Woodstock commemorations have been halved for lack of patronage, it is time, as the drug-free pleasure of some snickering dies down, to look into history's myriad alternative occasions in a packed year of calendar milestones stretching from Omaha Beach to the Sea of Tranquility. Memory serves us strangely, if we're not careful, so herewith is a fuller 1994 sampler of other premises for jostling together down at time's shore, to wallow and wince.

Prohibition, for one big event, occurred 75 years ago, reason enough now for en masse bellying up to the bar. About 500,000 Americans were arrested across the following decade, certainly more than were busted in all the rock concerts ever held. Yet its liver-scarred participants never gather for some of that Dennis Hopper-toned hyperbolic whining of "Like-wow-man" at the timelessness of having been wasted together.

As for musical occasion, 50 years ago Glenn Miller disappeared as World War II was ending and about to flood the nation with big-band addicts eager to send the recording industry rocketing. He left, less self-tragic than Jimi Hendrix, as a soldier flying above the English Channel without so much as a baton or yellow ribbon to mark him. Even more might we now gather to mourn the day the music died, 35 years ago, when the prodigious Buddy Holly perished in the

Let's take a trip down Memory Lane, and stop everywhere.

plane crash that took the Big Bopper and Ritchie Valens as well.

For commemorating the other deity in the Aquarian trinity, sex, now's the time for an original cast revival of "Oh! Calcutta!" the first Broadway vehicle to draw middle-class audiences with full-frontal nudity. That was 25 years ago, so to display the original cast, slackened and flaccid with time, might be the ultimate test of box-office nostalgia. Looking back at 1969, when Penthouse magazine began and the Saturday Evening Post closed after a century of modesty, you don't have to be swaying obscenely in a mass of Deadheads to see how sex once was a less forbidding distraction than it has lately become.

As for fractious politics, there are those in the crowd who might be willing to attend a commemoration of the 25th anniversary of Earl Warren's rounding out his estimable career on the Supreme Court, if only because he forced his critics to find fresh excuses for national kvetch and conspiracy beyond "the Warren Court." Others might want to skip any 25th reunions for the debut of The Brady Bunch; better to privately savor the undermining of faux wholesomeness that has followed.

Those are only a few opening milestones, with no reference to such occasions as George Bush's proclamation four years ago of this "decade of the brain" in which all Americans were urged to hail, study and otherwise groom the "three-pound mass of interwoven nerve cells." But do we write? Do we call in?

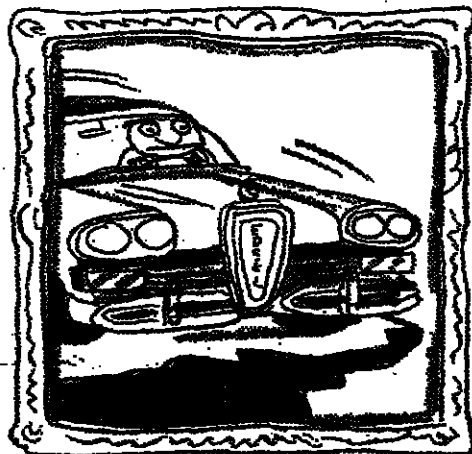
And what about the 35th anniversary of Barbie, and still no genitalia? Or the 30th year of G.I. Joe, and still no manhood? And the 30th for Charlie the Tuna's first ego-crushing rejection, with, nonetheless, still no 9-millimeter fin-gun being brandished, bless the tepidness of Charlie's rage. Americans who think the 50th birthday of Smokey the Bear is cause for rallying should drive this weekend up the Thruway (I mean, the Thruway's open, man!) to Andover, N.Y., where more than 2,000 firefighters are feting Smokey like he was Arlo.

Lows and Highs

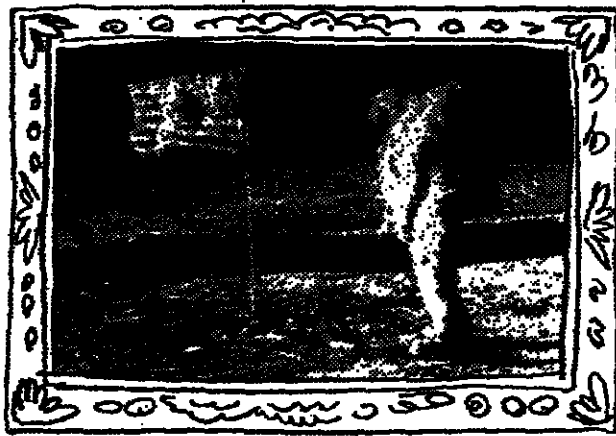
Technology suggests other venues, certainly at our radios for the 10th anniversary of President Ronald Reagan's terrible practical joke: He made like he was warming up for the apocalyptic fireside chat and condemned the Russians in voice-testing an open microphone, announcing with all his head-bobbing, Paul Bunyan winsomeness: "The bombing begins in five minutes." All our televisions, too, could be configured as a veritable Stonehenge for peering in mute wonder at that singular summer weekend 25 years ago when two enormous events were set to ever overlap in the memory of many.

First, we interrupt all programming to see Senator Edward M. Kennedy's Presidential appetite suddenly plunge in the dark gravity of Chappaquiddick; then, a day later, man walks like a feather on the moon, live before our eyes. (Richard Nixon intrudes like a grinning postage stamp in the TV picture corner, so oblivious to his own White House plunge-cum-campardon approaching five years later.) For the living nation, so history-shy, these glimpses may be all there is to establish collective definition and common purpose for wandering further into time.

All the more reason for combing memory for outbursts of laughter and



EDSEL
35 years



MOONWALK
25 years



FIRST ANGLO-SAXON SHIRT
1,000 years



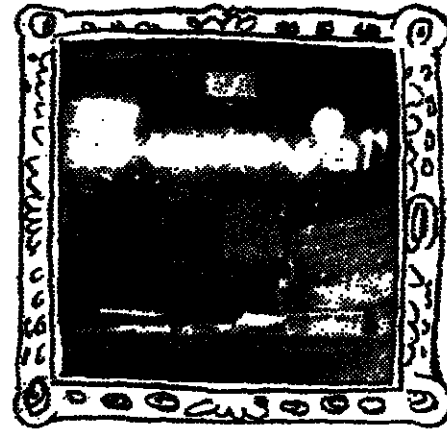
WOODSTOCK
25 years



"OH! CALCUTTA!"
25 years



STREAKING
20 years



STONEWALL RIOTS
25 years



PROHIBITION
75 years



BONNIE AND CLYDE
60 years



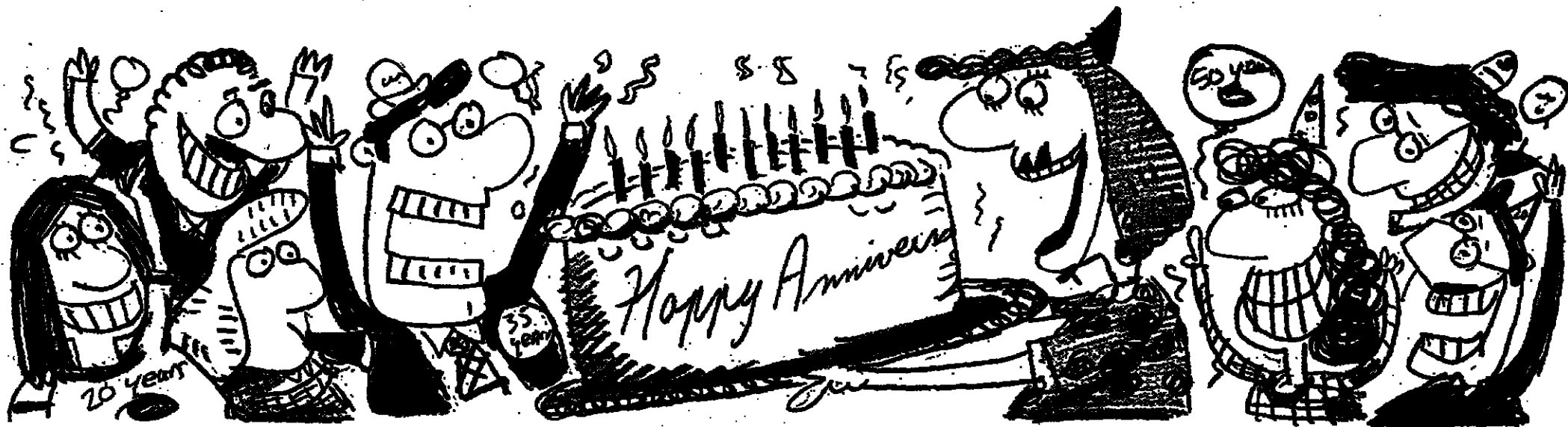
BIKINI
50 years



NIXON'S RESIGNATION
20 years



DONALD DUCK
60 years



Illustrations by Keith Bendis

could terrorize a retirement village to commemorate the 70th anniversary of Marlon Brando's first mumbings in his crib. And it's 200 years since the first American millionaire, Cornelius Vanderbilt, was born and got The Donald treatment of undue respect. Marlon's nativity coincided with the sensational Leopold and Loeb trial, a case of affluent youths murdering a random innocent in a fit of enmity, a case that gripped the nation like O. J.'s without benefit of TV rent-a-sages. It's 90 years since Ju Jitsu was wildly popularized by Teddy Roosevelt, a moment for which the Beltway's massed castrati chorus of White House press corps veterans

ungathered over: 50 years since the first bikini whittled life's mysteries, 20 years since streaking begged their restoration. Where would all of Woodstock's studied dressing down be without the dressing up historians mark at 1,000 years ago, when Anglo-Saxons invented the layered look and donned primal shirts and coats? There's a bog somewhere, a place for us to gather and really let go about this, reviewed this time by platoons of style writers.

On a simpler scale, we still have time to mass, in Hollywood, ideally, 200 years after men's hair powder was disfavored by the primping Founding Fathers. In doing so, they did spare the exorbitant pigtails so sported now in authoritarian grays by some who style themselves as post-Woodstock successes spinning entertainment riches from all that they learned at the counter-culture. Daniel Berrigan, still conscientious after all these years, saw it all coming: "A revolution is interesting insofar as it avoids like the plague the plague it promised to heal."

About the big plague, this year we can commemorate the 1,400th year of its ending. It leveled Europe's population by half but made all of us stronger for it, even if this health care debate is a drag. "For what has this world been formed?" Voltaire asked, answering: "To plague us to death." Janis Joplin's point, exactly.

But before that there is much other overlooked life available for commemoration. It's 800 years since the first gondola defined the grace of Venice. Tomorrow, zealous gardeners celebrate national Sneak Some Zucchini Onto Your Neighbor's Porch Night. And, oh: 40 years since Joe D. married Marilyn, a decade after "The Glass Menagerie" made an American romance of memory. And 400 years since Shakespeare showed producers how to really pack spirited groundlings together, creating a coda that's Woodstockian enough in "As You Like It": "Last scene of all, that ends this strange eventful history, is second childishness and mere oblivion."

The national identity may be made of this.

might lyrically commemorate the 20th century's earliest spin-controlled feeding-frenzy.

Dear Woodstockians, your best instincts can be handily marked right now elsewhere in history than Bethel. No one still struts more as a free spirit than Candide, the creature of Voltaire who was born a commemorative tidy 300 years ago. "Let us cultivate our garden," was Candide's epiphany, as in: Do your own thing. You can't relate to Voltaire? That's cool; how about the Munchkins of Oz convention in Wilmington, Del. this weekend? You just missed the Canadian Chocolate Festival in New Brunswick for getting off on unproscribed substances. If you're bummed out about all this call to memory, at least keep in mind that 10:33 P.M. E.D.T. today is the precise halfway point of summer, a sweet turning ever ignored but hyped less than the age of Aquarius.

The calendar has lots more going

WOODSTOCK

Then ...

3 days of peace and music

Free love

Pete Townshend of The Who smashed his guitar

Arto Guthrie, mellow folkie known for the peace anthem "Alice's Restaurant"

"Suite: Judy Blues Eyes"

No-shows: Bob Dylan, Joni Mitchell

No rain! No rain!

He's a drug-store truck-drivin' man

I want to take you high-er!

What we have in mind is breakfast in bed for 400,000

It's a free concert from now on

... and Now

3 days of rent-a-police and music

Souvenir "I come in peace" condom-keychains

Pete Townshend, a victim of tinnitus, warns against smashed eardrums in public-service announcements

Alice in Chains, Seattle hard-rockers who sang "Hate to Feel"

Suite at the Kingston Ramada: \$200 a night (but they're booked solid)

Oh, no: Michael Jackson, Lisa Marie Presley

No cans! No bottles!

We're air-conditioned minivan dweebs

I had to enter re-hab!

What we have in mind is money in the bank for corporate vendors

If you don't want to pay \$135, it's \$49.95 on Pay-Per-View

TOM KUNTZ



Jimi Hendrix



Youssou N'Dour

Jack Vartoogian

The World

Mexicans' Dark Motto: In Little We Trust

By ANTHONY DePALMA

JUST as the votes were being counted in a hotly contested state election in Yucatán last November, the electricity was mysteriously knocked out in the capital city and large areas of the state. Officials said it was a mechanical defect, which almost no one believed, and when the lights came back on the long-ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party, the PRI, was ahead.

When the PRI presidential candidate Luis Donaldo Colosio was assassinated in Tijuana in March, so many people doubted the official explanation — that a deranged gunman had acted alone — that questions arose over whether the accused assassin held in a central Mexico jail was the same man who had been taken into

An election as exercise in democracy? Hard to believe.

custody seconds after the shooting. One had a mustache and one did not. Officials said the suspect had shaved.

Late last year, the PRI-dominated Government emphatically denied that rebels were active in the southern state of Chiapas. On Jan. 1 armed rebels rolled into four Chiapas towns.

Mexicans have long reserved their faith for the Virgin of Guadalupe and have little left over for politics or government. Yet lately their doubts have deepened dramatically, even as they were supposed to be dissipating under an expensive and sweeping Government campaign to bring legitimacy to the departing administration of President Carlos Salinas de Gortari and the election in two weeks to choose his successor.

Fed by the Chiapas insurrection, the assassination and many other formidable challenges to the nation's political institutions, this crisis of credibility looms as the ultimate conqueror of Mexico's imperfect democracy no

matter which presidential candidate prevails on Aug. 21. "The preoccupation is not with triumph, but with credibility," the PRI secretary general, José Francisco Ruiz Massieu, has said.

Now that the Soviet Communist Party is history, the PRI holds the world's record for staying in power. Its winning streak of 11 six-year presidential terms without ever alternating power with another party is unequalled, but skepticism is now so ingrained that it's not clear that another victory — even a clean one — would even be recognized by Mexicans.

The party's replacement candidate, Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León, is an earnest but passionless technocrat struggling in his first campaign for public office. Two opposition candidates, Diego Fernández de Cevallos of the right-leaning National Action Party, or PAN, and the left-leaning Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas of the Party of the Democratic Revolution have managed to make the race competitive.

Two weeks before the election Mr. Fernández — running on a campaign promise for "A Mexico Without Lies" — is considered the stronger challenger. But when he practically stopped making public appearances shortly after his overpowered performance in the May 12 presidential debate, he was accused of having cut a deal with the PRI. Mr. Cárdenas and his party have effectively challenged the credibility of the election process, but his own credibility is suspect because until 1987 he was a life-long member of the PRI.

Even if one of the opposition candidates beats the odds and accomplishes the first peaceful alternation of power in modern Mexican history, some suspicion will linger. A non-PRI President will probably be forced to share power with the distrusted remnants of a defeated



Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas, one of two opposition party candidates for President.

PRI, if only because his own party will not have enough experienced professionals to run the country.

Despite massive spending to create a tamper-proof electoral system, and a series of 11th-hour electoral reforms that have brought greater safeguards at the ballot box, Mexicans seem less and less ready to believe that the coming election will be clean. In January, 37 percent of those surveyed by the magazine *etcétera* said that even if the PRI won cleanly, nobody would believe it. By June, non-believers had increased to 54 percent.

"If you go around saying 'We never lose' for 85 years people are not apt to believe you if this time around you say that elections are going to be clean," said Carlos Fuentes, the writer, who has been active in a movement called the San Angel Group, which is trying to insure that the elections will be fair and its results recognized no matter what the outcome. "In the eyes of many Mexicans, the PRI has to lose in order for the election to be

credible, but that is not a democratic solution either."

PRI-Government efforts to promote trust have been substantial, though ineffective. The new system of voting safeguards is far more elaborate than anything in the United States. More than 45 million Mexicans carry credit card-sized voting credentials that bear their photos, their fingerprints and a good bit of their personal history. Without the card, they cannot vote.

The Government spent almost \$1 billion on the system and on creating one of the largest computerized voter-registration lists in the world. It is backed up by a sophisticated computer counting network, with three layers of backup, that is designed to assure every one of the 20 to 30 million Mexicans who are expected to vote that the paper ballots they mark will be counted.

More than 30 percent of Mexicans don't believe that at all, according to recent surveys.

Unsolved tragedies and deceptions add to the disbelief that pervades Mexican life. The death in May 1993 of a Roman Catholic cardinal, who officials say was mistakenly caught in a shootout of drug gangs, still raises eyebrows. When an opposition candidate for governor of the state of Chiapas was nearly killed in an early-morning highway collision late last month, many Mexicans just assumed it was an attempted assassination.

Ghost of '88

By far the biggest contributor to today's crisis of electoral credibility is the last election in 1988. President Salinas won with just over 50 percent of the vote, but only after computers mysteriously broke down on election night. Early results favored the opposition, and recently the head of the Federal Electoral Institute admitted what many people have long suspected — that PRI-affiliated government officials opted to shut down the system. When the count resumed several days later, Mr. Salinas was declared the winner.

"This is our history," said Santiago Creel Miranda, a lawyer who is one of six citizen counselors recently appointed to the electoral institute in a reform that for the first time took control of elections from the PRI. "It is something that we can't deny and we must confront, and which obviously results in the mistrust and suspicions of the citizenry."

Mr. Salinas took power in 1988 despite the widespread belief that he had lost, and set out to rebuild Mexico's economy. He planned to leave substantial political reform for his successor, but the turmoil of Chiapas made that impossible. In his last year, Mr. Salinas has scrambled to shore up what legitimacy he was able to win for the PRI through his economic successes.

A reflection of how far he has to go came on June 27, when the President announced that he would hand over power to the election's winner, regardless of party. It was big news in all the papers — a leader's statement that he would obey the Constitution.

Such a commitment is a given in many countries, but here it represents another test of faith.

U.N. Speaks Out on Haiti

Monroe's Doctrine Takes Another Knock

By ELAINE SCIOLINO

IN the midst of an otherwise straightforward television interview on NBC last Sunday, the American Ambassador to the United Nations, Madeleine K. Albright, was asked a rather arcane question: In seeking United Nations approval for invading Haiti, was the Clinton Administration burying the Monroe Doctrine forever?

Monroe Doctrine? The reference was to James Monroe's declaration of 1823 that the Western Hemisphere was now closed to re-colonization by Europeans. This may be dimly familiar to those who once took an American history course. But the details are widely enough misunderstood that the kind of people who populate the serious policy talk shows have long since made it a rhetorical stick with which to beat their opponents — a kind of code for brooking no nonsense in the Americas.

On the talk show last week, Ms. Albright was quick to defend this Administration's backbone. "No, obviously not," she answered her interviewer. "It helps a great deal to have international blessing for this kind of operation."

Nevertheless, Bill Clinton has now become the first American President to ask the Security Council in advance to approve

military intervention in America's own back yard. And some serious historians are already commenting about the precedent.

"It's an extraordinary reversal," said Gaddis Smith, author of "The Last Years of the Monroe Doctrine," who applauds Mr. Clinton's stance. "The United States has recognized that threats to peace and security in the Western Hemisphere are as much for consideration by the Security Council as threats to peace and security in Korea or the Balkans. Clinton is not only welcoming the U.N. but trying to make it the vehicle for intervention."

Actually, when President Monroe unveiled his doctrine to Congress a mere four decades after Britain had been thrown out of the 13 Colonies, it was never intended to make the United States the policeman of the Western Hemisphere. It was in 1904 that Teddy Roosevelt added an assertive edge, with a corollary stating that civilized nations around the world should exercise an "international police power" in "flagrant cases of wrongdoing or impotence." For the United States, that was taken to mean control over its hemisphere, and Woodrow Wilson did invoke the Monroe Doctrine when he sent the Marines into Haiti in 1915.

Since then, however, a number of Presi-

dents have deliberately avoided invoking Monroe when intervening south of the border. For example, after the Justice Department suggested during the Cuban missile crisis that the United States could claim special legal rights in the hemisphere under the Monroe Doctrine, John Kennedy dismissed the notion out of hand, saying: "The Monroe Doctrine? What the hell is that?"

Reagan and Bush Too

It's not as if recent American Presidents have felt they needed a Monroe Doctrine to do whatever they had to do to protect the neighborhood. Ronald Reagan was as determined as any in this regard, and he didn't invoke the doctrine when he invaded Grenada in 1983; his Administration simply drafted a request to itself for an invasion, handed it to the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, obtained the organization's approval of it, and then turned around and cited it as justification for sending in the troops. (The year before, the Reagan Administration in effect trampled all over the Monroe Doctrine as originally conceived, when it rooted for Britain rather than Argentina in the Falklands War.)

Nor did George Bush cite the Monroe Doctrine in sending American troops to overthrow Panama's Manuel Antonio Noriega in 1989; he argued that threats to American servicemen stationed there was reason enough to go in.

All of this illustrates that while the Monroe Doctrine may have fallen into disuse as a justification, or pretext, for intervention, the United States has certainly not abandoned intervention itself.

But that still leaves the question of why Mr. Clinton feels a need for global approval before deciding whether to invade Haiti.

The simplest explanation is that the United Nations endorsement came easy. It was Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali who proposed it, saying democracy might be restored in Haiti by a United Nations-approved invasion followed by the use of a United Nations force to keep the peace. The second explanation is that Mr. Clinton seems unwilling to take any decision involving the use of force on his own — whether in Bosnia or Haiti.

There may be a third explanation too: that Security Council endorsement was a convenient way to neutralize predictable opposition from Latin countries to an invasion, and the best way to recruit the international corps of 10,000 or so troops, police and civilian contractors the United States feels will be needed after an invasion. After all, the United States is not prepared on its own to maintain order there for a long time.

What seems most unlikely is that Mr. Clinton's decision to go to the United Nations for approval will constrain his successors from acting unilaterally if vital interests are at stake, whatever doctrine may be in vogue at the time.

Africa Lets Tragedy Run Its Course



African National Congress supporters fled the bullets of Zulu nationalists before the elections in South Africa last May.

Continued from page 1

problem," Mr. Omotoso said. "When tragedy breaks out, they cannot pretend they didn't know the final outcome of what they were doing, and come in posing as humanitarians. They have no moral authority."

Paul Johnson, in an acid summation of post-colonial African history contained in his book "Modern Times," says that differences between apartheid and the practices of most African states "were more theoretical than

support of African leaders for Idi Amin while he savaged Uganda; even after his butchery was widely known, the Organization of African Unity elected him its president.

Africa studied its cynicism at the knees of Western experts, Mr. Johnson adds. First the colonial powers established the practice of ethnic social engineering, playing tribe against tribe. Then, he charges, the United Nations, under the leadership of the ambitious idealist Dag Hammarskjöld, pandered to Third World delegates by promoting "a characteristic U.N. double standard: that whereas the killing of Africans by whites (as at Sharpeville in South Africa on 21 March 1960) was of international concern and a threat to peace, the killing of Africans by Africans (or of whites by Africans, or of Asians by Africans or all three races by Africans) was a purely internal matter outside the purview of the U.N."

The United Nations has moved decisively away from that double standard by demanding the world's attention in Somalia and Rwanda. Will African leaders follow?

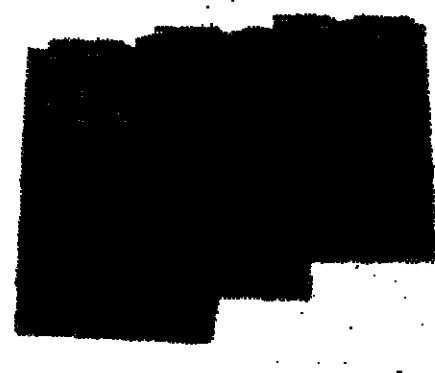
Mr. Vale believes that with the loss of its last unifying cause — the white regime in Pretoria — the see-no-evil pan-Africanist solidarity of the Organization of African Unity may be abandoned in favor of smaller, stronger, regional blocs that are more likely to police themselves.

Mr. Omotoso hopes other African states will be shamed by the example of South Africa, which — to the uneasiness of many countries that underwrote the liberation struggle — has tried to overcome ethnic

grievance and unite black and white in a coalition of common economic interest.

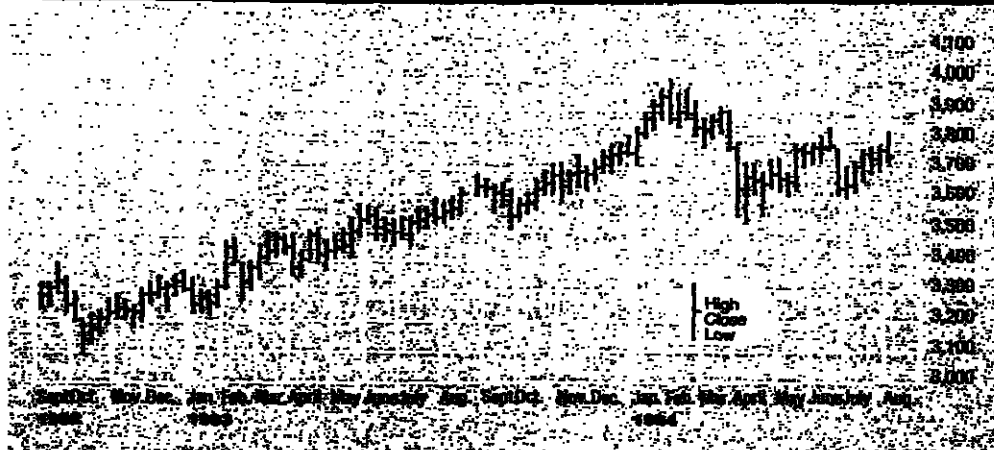
"Many of those governments put resources at the aid of the black liberation movement in South Africa as a way of hiding the problems they had at home," he said. "Now the contradictions are coming out. Now everyone finds himself having to take lessons from South Africa."

Word for Word
Children's lives
as art. Page 9.



The Stock Markets Last Week

DOW JONES INDUSTRIAL AVERAGE



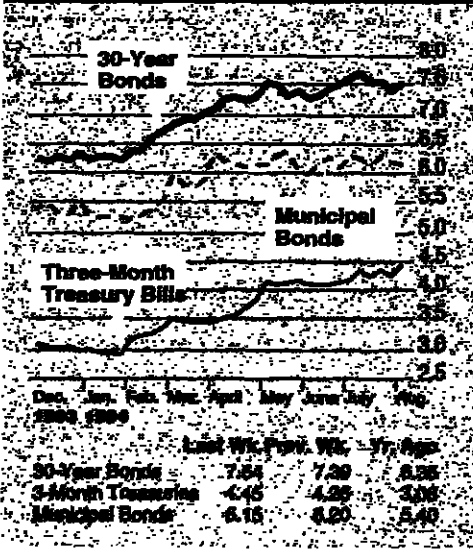
MARKET DIARY

	NYSE	NASDAQ	AMEX
Advanced	1,395	2,059	410
Declined	1,192	2,323	412
Unchanged	409	908	170
Issues Traded	2,996	5,290	992
New Highs	145	139	34
New Lows	131	246	36

MARKET INDEXES

	Close	Chg	%Chg	YTD %
D. J. Indust	3,747.02	-17.48	-0.46	-0.19
D. J. Transp	1,596.83	+8.97	+0.57	+9.42
D. J. Util	189.43	+3.03	+1.63	+17.39
S&P 500	457.09	-1.17	-0.26	-2.01
S&P Indust	532.18	-1.91	-0.36	-1.48
NYSE Comp	252.50	-0.12	-0.05	-2.54
Nasdaq	718.67	-3.49	-0.48	-7.48
Amex	440.34	+2.65	+0.61	+7.71
Russell 2000	244.19	+0.13	+0.05	-5.57
Wilshire 5000	4,519.04	-0.76	-0.02	-2.98
Value Line	281.80	+0.27	+0.10	-4.57

INTEREST RATES



New York Stock Exchange

MOST ACTIVE				PERCENTAGE GAINERS				PERCENTAGE LOSERS			
Vol. (00)	Last Chg.			Last Chg.	Pct.	Last Chg.	Pct.	Last Chg.	Pct.	Last Chg.	Pct.
TelMex	191540	63	+2 1/4	ElcAut	99 1/4	+3 1/4	62.5	CartWI	12 1/4	-3 1/4	20.8
Shandong	168564	14	-	AmCyan	91 1/4	+30 1/2	50.3	Salant	5 1/4	-1	16.7
AmCyan	160035	91 1/4	+30 1/2	Munung	6 1/4	+1 1/2	30.8	Lowes	3 1/4	-5 1/4	14.9
Form	159663	23 1/4	-2 1/4	FMROY	6 1/4	+1 1/4	22.2	StarSt	25 1/4	-4 1/4	14.2
GM	158224	50 1/4	-1 1/4	BotBer	13	+2 1/4	20.9	WIGasR	19 1/4	-3	13.3
Compq s	132655	33 1/4	+1 1/4	EnaExp	9 1/2	+1 1/4	20.6	Tesoro	9	-1 1/4	13.3
Chryslr	128792	45 1/4	-2 1/4	GrpFnsr n	20 1/4	+3 1/4	20.1	FicFis s	11 1/4	-1 1/2	11.9
RJR	120616	6 1/4	+ 1/4	Intalca	5 1/2	+ 7/8	18.9	BuLIE	13 1/4	-1 1/4	11.8
Merck	117122	29 1/4	+ 1/4	Coran/ith	13 1/4	+2 1/4	18.5	WIGasR p/a	36	-4 1/2	11.1
McDons	113755	25 1/4	- 1/4	Gleech	22 1/4	+3 1/4	17.8	UsairG pi	31 1/4	-3 1/4	10.9
AlchNot n	103067	27 1/4	- 1/4	Intool	14 1/4	+2 1/4	17.7	Sizzler	5 1/4	-5 1/4	10.9
CartWI	101725	12 1/4	-3 1/4	LevFurn n	7 1/4	+1 1/4	17.3	Albermarle	15 1/4	-1 1/4	10.8
GenEl s	97944	49	-1 1/4	Chiquita	14 1/4	+2 1/4	17.2	CHMCo	11 1/4	-1 1/4	10.7
IBM	88556	62 1/4	+ 1/2	Plitric	11 1/4	+1 1/4	16.1	AmEglOp n	10 1/4	-1 1/4	10.5
WalMt	88073	24 1/4	- 1/2	WldCp	5 1/2	+ 3/4	15.8	GrhmFI	4 1/4	-4 1/2	10.0

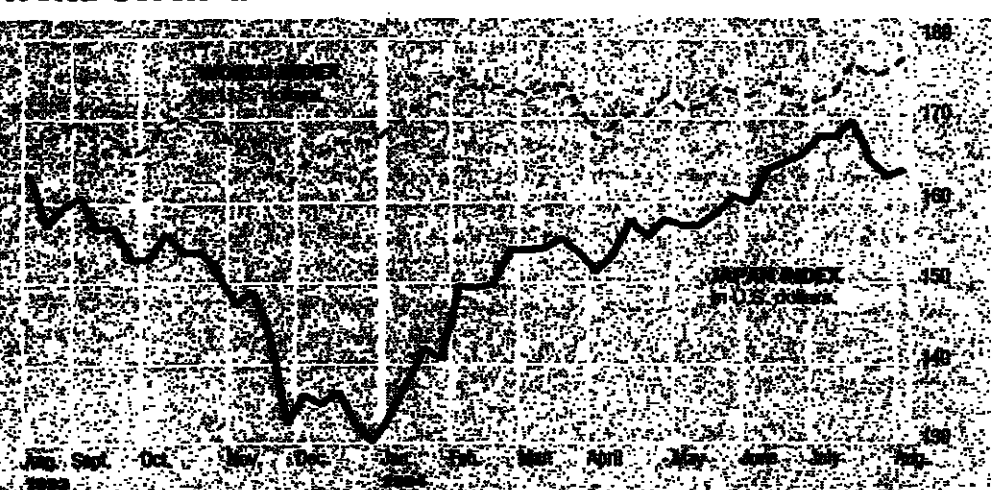
Nasdaq

MOST ACTIVE				PERCENTAGE GAINERS				PERCENTAGE LOSERS			
Vol. (00)	Last Chg.			Last Chg.	Pct.	Last Chg.	Pct.	Last Chg.	Pct.	Last Chg.	Pct.
NwbNk g s	370120	29 1/4	-12 1/2	4 D Soft	7 1/4	+3 1/4	114.8	Trimed	2 1/4	-2 1/4	43.1
SnapBov s	281875	15 1/4	-4 1/4	Purus	5 1/4	+1 1/4	39.4	IMRE un	5 1/2	-4	42.1
TelCom A	226910	23 1/4	- 1/4	KrwW	6 1/4	+1 1/4	38.5	CalMD	13 1/4	-9 1/2	42.0
Intel	199007	58 1/4	-1 1/4	Macromedia	11 1/4	+3 1/4	37.3	ScrieBd	3 1/4	-3 1/4	38.2
Micrft s	193320	52 1/4	+ 1	AllPro un	8 1/4	+2 1/4	32.7	ColeEnt w/a	3 1/4	-1 1/2	37.5
Cisco s	182240	20 1/4	- 1/4	CounStrs wt	5 1/4	+1 1/4	30.6	Pearle	6	-3	33.3
MDI	133250	23 1/4	+ 3/4	ImpCrnd	10 1/4	+2 1/4	30.3	Borror	5 1/4	-2 1/2	30.3
IDB Cm s	132307	8 1/4	-1 1/4	FTP Sftwre	16 1/4	+3 1/4	29.0	NwbNk g s	29 1/4	-12 1/2	29.8
DSC s	115250	23 1/4	-1 1/4	IntProEq wt	9	+2	28.6	Telular	9 1/4	-4	29.6
Angen	101415	50 1/4	+1 1/4	Merisel	9 1/4	+2	28.1	BrndTch	19 1/4	-6 1/4	26.7

American Stock Exchange

MOST ACTIVE				PERCENTAGE GAINERS				PERCENTAGE LOSERS			
Vol. (00)	Last Chg.			Last Chg.	Pct.	Last Chg.	Pct.	Last Chg.	Pct.	Last Chg.	Pct.
XCL	29165	1 1/4	+ 1/4	Xytron	5 1/4	+1 1/4	42.9	NatAR f	5 1/4	-2 1/4	27.0
Elan	24779	32	-2 1/4	KierVu s	6 1/4	+1 1/4	28.2	USIntc	5	-7 1/4	14.9
EcoBy	24341	11	- 1/4	IntLatty n	9 1/4	+1 1/4	22.2	Diods	5 1/4	-1	14.8
InvCp	22387	17 1/4	+ 3/4	HMG	10 1/4	+1 1/4	20.6	SalmSNPL n	20 1/2	-3 1/2	14.6
Viacom B	21667	34 1/4	- 3/4	NTN	8 1/4	+1 1/4	20.0	RefactCh	6 1/4	-1 1/4	14.3

World Stock Markets



Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the FT Actuarial World Index, a measure of stock market performance. The FT Indexes are compiled jointly by The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and NatWest Securities Ltd. in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and the Faculty of Actuaries.

PERFORMANCE		IN U.S. DOLLARS					IN LOCAL CURRENCY				
Country	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.	YTD Rank	Dividend Yield	Index	YTD % Chg.	Exchange Rate to \$	YTD % Chg.	
Australia	177.55	2.1	11	6.4	13	3.46	159.28	-2.6	1.3488	9.2	
Austria	191.55	3.7	6	3.5	15	1.01	157.64	-5.3	11.145	9.4	
Belgium	178.34	1.9	15	8.4	9	3.90	141.59	-2.4	32.56	11.0	
Britain	199.38	3.0	8	-2.8	20	3.95	191.78	-6.7	0.8487	4.2	
Canada	127.80	-0.1	23	-5.9	21	2.64	128.33	-1.4	1.3868	-4.5	
Denmark	273.37	0.8	19	10.6	8	1.28	231.29	1.2	8.2209	9.2	
Finland	162.87	1.7	18	32.2	1	0.79	177.93	18.8	5.2056	11.2	
France	180.06	1.9	13	2.5	16	2.68	182.86	-6.2	5.4186	9.1	
Germany	148.08	2.9	12	4.2	14	1.72	120.16	-5.1	1.5822	9.8	
Hong Kong	369.80	1.1	18	-20.3	24	3.14	366.65	-20.4	7.7261	0.0	
Ireland	207.25	4.8	4	11.9	8	3.23	191.66	3.5	0.6563	6.1	
Italy	85.70	-0.0	22	24.9	3	1.51	101.01	15.2	1578.25	8.5	
Japan	163.87	0.5	20	25.9	2	0.74	104.08	13.4	100.485	11.1	
Malaysia	526.15	7.5	1	-11.1	23	1.57	521.69	-15.0	2.5745	4.8	
Mexico	2189.79	5.8	2	-8.3	22	1.65	8062.83	-0.3	3.376	-8.0	
Netherlands	213.62	2.3	10	7.3	10	3.28	173.28	-1.8	1.7772	9.3	
New Zealand	72.39	5.7	3	6.6	12	3.76	63.61	-1.3	1.6548	8.0	
Norway	209.36	0.4	21	16.5	4	1.68	196.43	7.1	6.9125	8.8	
Singapore	357.49	3.3	7	-2.7	19	1.70	248.22	-8.9	1.5067	6.8	
South Africa	295.85	3.8	-5	10.7	7	2.11	294.22	17.5	4.55	-5.7	
Spain	149.27	2.8	9	7.1	11	3.92	147.01	-2.6	130	9.9	
Sweden	223.17	1.7	17	13.6	5	1.56	255.77	5.6	7.742	7.7	
Switzerland	159.65	1.9	14	-0.3	17	1.84	132.11	-10.4	1.3947	11.3	
United States	166.80	-0.2	24	-1.8	18	2.89	166.80	-1.8			

COMPOSITE INDEXES

	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.
Europe	174.39	2.3	2.8	2.94	157.87	-4.4
Europe/Pacific	173.36	1.5	11.8	1.85	131.81	2.6
World	177.59	0.9	6.2	2.22	151.48	1.1

Source: Goldman, Sachs & Co. Exchange rates as of Friday's London close.

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The Economy

July Employment Numbers Add Up to Higher Rates

Job growth is going up, up and away — so that the inflation-fighting Fed is likely to act this month to raise interest rates a fifth time this year. President Clinton was quick to point out that more than four million new jobs — the number he pledged to produce by the end of this year — have been created since he took office. That's all well and good, but he can't take all the credit. Last spring, the economy proved it sometimes has a life of its own; before the Administration was able to present its ill-fated stimulus package to Congress, payrolls jumped in May. Labor Secretary Robert Reich warned then not to "put too much weight on a single month's numbers." Last week, he said figures for July are "further proof that job growth is continuing its solid, steady course." In July, the economy created 259,000 new jobs, about 60,000 more than consensus forecasts. Average hourly earnings rose by 4 cents, to \$11.12.



Upjohn Pays Its Probers



Pharmacists: New source of income?

Did too! Did not! Did too! Did not! Whatever happened, Upjohn last week agreed to pay \$650,000 to several state investigative agencies. In New York, the Attorney General said Upjohn violated state laws against deceptive and misleading business practices when, from September 1992 to March 1993, it paid pharmacists \$8 every time a patient they consulted switched from one diabetes drug (Mircronase, which lost its patent protection two years ago) to another (Glynase, which is still protected). Upjohn said last week it did nothing wrong in its marketing plan but it would pay eight states — Arizona, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Texas and Wisconsin — about \$84,000 each for their investigative costs.

Paul Allen's Gizmo Search

Some Lollapalooza goers are getting more than they bargained for this year. Besides jamming to their favorite alternative-rock bands and hanging loose in the summer heat, some will likely help determine what will be the next gadget or two appearing on store shelves everywhere. Last week, Paul Allen — a software billionaire who cofounded Microsoft and owns Ticketmaster and part of Egghead Software — flew to Providence, R.I., to check out his \$3 million technology exhibition roaming the country with the music fest. His goal is to discover the next big hit in consumer electronics. Among the computerized offerings the concertgoers experienced was the "Baby Maker" software program, which lets a couple — regardless of sex — combine their images digitally to see what their offspring would look like.

MGM Puts Faith in Vegas

How obsessed are Americans with gambling? Very, MGM and Primadonna Resorts suggested last week when they bet \$300 million on yet another Vegas gambling center. (MGM itself just opened the nation's biggest casino resort there six months ago, at a cost of \$1 billion.) The latest casino — New York-New York — is also one in a string of projects taking shape while Las Vegas luxuriates in a record summer. "This is a sign of confidence in the Las Vegas market," said a University of Las Vegas professor, "but this rush-ahead, rush-ahead philosophy is a gamble, and the fact that MGM cut someone else in indicates that they think it is something of a crap shoot, too."

China Market's Painful Start

When the Chinese Communist Government held its reborn stock market by the feet and slapped its bottom to get it breathing in 1990, China was unprepared for the challenge — and pains — the market would bring once it started walking. While the market created quick fortunes for a handful of investors and hit record highs early last year, it wasn't long before it took a fall. Recent months brought a near collapse, and when many first-time Chinese investors panicked and sold off shares, they lost their life savings. Last week, however, the index for the Chinese-only A shares more than doubled. Some frustrated investors vowed to abandon the market and its vagaries. And others talked about "winning" back their losses.

Clinton Wants R-E-S-P-E-C-T

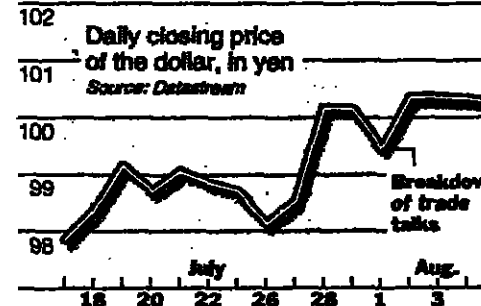
Dissatisfied with the little bit of commendation he's getting for the economy's performance, President Clinton last week held a news conference to sing his own praises. The White House also brought out backup vocals: eight top economic officials who touted their agencies' successes in the last 18 months. Commerce Secretary Brown harmonized: "I don't think that the President has gotten the credit that he has deserved."

Dog Days of Retail

The Gap made a little money in July. The Limited lost a little. But Sears and Woolworth lapped up gains. "The trend in July is no trend," one retail analyst remarked. "Sales are really all over the board." Those erratic sales leave few clues about where sales are headed. The only thread of the retail story is that diversified retailers — discounters and department stores — are doing better than stores that simply sell clothing.

Japan Trade Is a Sticky Situation

Talk about bad timing. The Clinton Administration has decided it's time to get tough with Japan on trade. Last week, it formally accused Japan of discriminating against American companies in awarding some contracts. But the Administration is putting on the gloves amid such dizzying political turmoil in Japan that the Asian target's outline is fuzzy: Japan has had four Prime Ministers in a little more than a year. A former United States trade official said prodding a decision out of the "collection of ministries" was like "punching a marshmallow." In the process, experts say, the dollar could spill the most blood — if the United States gets so frustrated it drives down the dollar's value to sell more goods in Japan.



Cyanamid Gets the Looks

Not long ago, American Cyanamid's dance card was empty. (Earlier this decade, when the company's focus was on manufacturing chemicals, it was an outcast that watched its stock price slide for two dreadfully long years.) In came a new C.E.O., who in the last 18 months has transformed the concern into a health care and agricultural products company by cutting costs and shedding sorry divisions. The makeover worked. Last week, American Home Products presented American Cyanamid with a surprise, \$8.5 billion cash takeover offer, causing the company's stock to soar more than 40 percent. Several more suitors may be lining up. Securities experts say European drug and chemical concerns like Bayer, Ciba-Geigy, Hoechst and Zeneca could offer even better propositions.

Out of (South) Africa, Still

Jailed, he inspired song and sit-ins. The personification of how blacks were persecuted under apartheid in South Africa, he was the torch investor activists and students carried to light fires under American companies to divest themselves of operations there. But now that Nelson Mandela is free and leading his country, he can't get investors' attention. Last week — 10 months after he formally invited foreign business to return — a snapshot of investment activity since April showed more foreign money flowing out than in, despite the fact that advance scouts of Western dough last year promised investment if peace prevailed and Mandela embraced the free market. Now, potential investors complain about things like a costly labor force and trade barriers.

World Markets/James Sternigold

Foreigners Drive Tokyo's Movements

It may say Tokyo Stock Exchange over the entrance and the players are predominantly Japanese, but ask an analyst these days who is really controlling the fate of the stock market here, and the answer is likely to be the unexpected — foreigners. With overseas investors having loaded up on billions of dollars in Japanese equities in the first half of the year, the Japanese market was one of the strongest in the world. The Nikkei index of 225 issues shot up 18 percent to 20,521.70 on Friday from the beginning of 1994.

In dollar terms, the run looks even better. Since the yen rocketed in value against the dollar, the index here has risen about 31 percent on a dollar basis, making Japan, for all its economic woes, a hot investment play. The past month, however, has been less kind, due in large part to concern over the yen and lack of progress in trade talks between Japan and the United States, which hit an impasse last weekend.

The market has drifted sideways, and several times threatened to break below 20,000. A key reason is that the foreigners, spooked by concerns over the yen, stopped buying. Government figures show foreign investors sold about \$500 million more equities than they purchased last month.

Japanese institutions, among the richest in the world, just have not had the appetite to push up their own market. "The biggest question for me is, when are the Japanese going to buy?" said John Baldwin, an analyst here with Jardine Fleming Securities. "My view is they don't need to be buying their own market and they still have major balance sheet problems. If the foreigners are selling, there's nobody else to pick up the slack." He added, "I see it as a supply and demand thing. There is still an awful lot of share disposal Japanese institutions need to do, and I don't see a lot of interest in picking that up. Some areas of the economy may be improving, but I see it as a kind of profitless prosperity."

Not everyone is that pessimistic, but it is clear that Japanese institutions — commercial banks, trust banks and insurance compe-

nies — are suffering from two major problems. The collapse of the stock market and the slowdown in the economy four years ago has left a potent residue of bad debts and battered balance sheets throughout corporate Japan. Most analysts say they believe it may take another several years to clean up the mess and restore confidence.

In addition, the recent steep rise in the value of the yen, to a near record high of about 100 yen to the dollar, could have a harsh impact. The strong currency has hurt exporters, threatening profits and the recovery. Most expect the economy to grow only about 1 percent this year.

Every time trade talks with Washington get stuck, as they did a week ago, the yen tends to strengthen, because investors expect Japan's surplus to rise further. It does not help that the new prime minister, Tomiichi Murayama, is a Socialist whose party has traditionally tended to be protectionist.

Surprisingly, though, many analysts see this as a temporary lull. They generally expect foreigners to renew their buying because they tend to believe the yen has peaked. And, overall, few expect the economic recovery to get derailed.

"In my view, it's looking more and more like the yen's strength is over," said Jeff

The New York Times

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Whitewater's Wreckage, So Far

Give the Clinton Administration witnesses this. They were tireless in their legalistic evasions and prickly self-justifications. Even with a new independent counsel on the case, their "nothing happened" defense may have thrown up enough smoke and confusion for them to avoid legal trouble.

But at what cost to an Administration with a record of recklessly promiscuous conflict of interest and to a President already suspected of being incapable of remembering the whole truth? Mr. Clinton may have simply been blessing his aides' efforts to save their own skins, or jobs, when he said he had not watched the Whitewater hearings. But if he spoke the truth, the confession suggests a man oblivious to the fact that his political ship, and hence his Presidency, could break apart on the rocks of mismanagement and obfuscation.

Certainly he and his surrogates would not have dared promise in 1992 to provide the kind of government described before the Senate Banking Committee. The appalling disingenuousness of Lloyd Cutler, Bernard Nussbaum, Jean Hanson, Roger Altman et al. reduced even the more thoughtful Democrats to hand-twisting disbelief. Like most Americans, the senators understand that there are decent limits to partisanship and self-protection. They expect senior officials to operate with sound judgment, a sense of propriety and a minimal respect for the independence of investigative and regulatory agencies.

In a world of normal expectations, for example, it would never occur to anyone that the acting head of the Resolution Trust Corporation, Mr. Altman, would voluntarily scurry to the White House to discuss even procedural issues or that his counsel, Ms. Hanson, would alert intimates of the President and the First Lady to investigations involving them and their Arkansas business partner.

Mr. Altman, in his eagerness to ingratiate himself to Mr. Clinton and to succeed Lloyd Bentsen as Secretary of the Treasury, compromised his duty. Meanwhile, White House officials fought Mr. Altman's decent instinct to recuse himself because they wanted a fail-safe mechanism that would allow them to monitor the supposedly independent investigation and, some suspect, intervene to block a finding hostile to Mr. Clinton and his free-wheeling Arkansas confederate, James McDougal.

The White House line is that nothing illegal or unethical happened. That simply means the participants were careful and the nation lucky — this time. But it misses the larger point: These people tainted the processes agreed to over the decades by Democrats and Republicans alike. That is why we see Democrats like Donald Riegle, chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, telling Mr. Nussbaum that he was simply wrong to comment on recusal decisions affecting the R.I.C. That is why we see Democratic excusers like Representative Henry Gonzalez reduced to the role of court jester.

The Whitewater hearings provided an insight into a continuing problem. The Clinton loyalists think they can poke and snoop anywhere in defending the President's political interests. Such has been their operating style since Inauguration Day. That is why early on, the Federal Bureau of Investigation was misused to build a case against the White House travel office. That is why in the last few days we have learned that files belonging to the late Vincent Foster, which should have been delivered to the proper authorities, spent five days in a safe in the residential wing of the White House.

What can the Clinton Administration do to restore its reputation, assuming the problem interests Mr. Clinton? Clearly, the Treasury Department, which must work closely with Capitol Hill, has no credibility with Congress and will have none as long as Mr. Altman, Ms. Hanson and the comical Joshua Steiner remain. The Senate Banking Committee seems willing to believe Mr. Bentsen when he says he did not know until March what the others were up to. So the door is open for Mr. Bentsen to clean house and install a new team if Mr. Clinton will give him the go-ahead.

What Mr. Clinton thinks or wants when it comes to public and Congressional confidence is a mystery. In the last decade of the 20th century we have a White House that operates by 19th-century rules of political intrigue — hidden files and clandestine tip-offs. The hardened pols on the Senate Banking Committee explained the bipartisan rulebook on modern governance to the Administration. But in this White House, it is hard to know if anyone — including the boss, especially the boss — is listening.

When Politics Hide Behind Islam

The burning of books leads ineluctably to the burning of heretics. Freedom of conscience is a protection for all believers, to the disadvantage of none. When preachers enter politics, scruple sometimes flies out the door. It has taken centuries for Western societies to absorb these lessons, whose value is periodically underscored here at home by an outburst of religious zealotry — such as the killing in Florida of a physician by a foe of abortion rights, to demonstrate the sanctity of life.

Similar acts, in other parts of the world, have been inspired by what is too sweepingly called Islamic fundamentalism. Every great religion derives its strength from fundamentals, and in that sense every believer is a fundamentalist. Rather call it crafty fanaticism when clergymen with a political agenda agitate to execute alleged blasphemers, now including Christians. And in countries where this is happening — Bangladesh, Pakistan and Iran — religious bigotry is in fact a deadly weapon in a worldly power struggle.

In Bangladesh, which once prided itself on traditions of tolerance, the most conspicuous target is a feminist novelist, Taslima Nasrin, who is threatened with death by Islamic radicals and with a blasphemy trial by a rattled Government. The less-publicized targets are non-conforming newspaper editors and aid groups like the renowned Gramen Bank, whose offense is to give small loans to rural women. Scores of journalists have been jailed for "un-Islamic practices," while mobs take direct action, bombing houses and wrecking offices, as related in a report by Human Rights Watch/Asia.

In Pakistan, prosecutors use blasphemy laws, carrying capital sentences, against Christians and adherents of the Ahmadiyya, a minority faith. Some

Christians have died in custody; others face execution, according to a detailed Amnesty International report. As in Bangladesh, a moderate Government, also led by a politically vulnerable woman, is challenged by militant religious radicals claiming a divine right to rule and threatened by women's newfound access to power, whether political or literary. Rather than fight, both Governments have gone along with blasphemy prosecutions.

Granted, compared with Iran, these sanctions are mild. Since seizing power in 1979, Iran's clerical rulers have executed tens of thousands, and made life miserable for 350,000 followers of the Bahai faith. Ayatollah Khomeini has been succeeded as spiritual dictator by Ayatollah Khamenei, whose hard-line zealotry prevails over the cautious pragmatism of President Rafsanjani. Ominously, Islamic radicals elsewhere — especially in the Sudan, Egypt and Algeria — take their cue from Teheran's ayatollahs.

Hence the sinister implications of a new wave of repression directed against 80,000 Iranian Christians, three of whose leaders have been killed this year. The search for new victims and fresh heresies has been a proven means in Iran of deflecting discontent with joblessness, inflation and clerical corruption. The savage mistreatment of Christians conflicts with guarantees in Iran's Constitution, just as obligatory bribes for mullahs shame the religious pretensions of the Islamic Republic.

President Rafsanjani needs to know that these persecutions are noticed, that there is deep concern about the perilous example Iran is setting, and that Iran cannot hope for more normal relations with the West by showing such flagrant contempt for universal norms of tolerance.

Poverty Is Unfairly Defined

The cost of food, rent and other consumer goods can be twice as high in Manhattan as in Little Rock, Ark. Yet the income cutoff for poverty programs is the same in both places, \$14,764 for a family of four. That produces the ridiculous and unfair result that a Manhattan family earning \$15,000 does not qualify for Federal nutrition or education programs while an Arkansas family earning \$14,500 — the equivalent of \$29,000 in Manhattan — does.

The Federal definition of poverty is blind to the real costs paid by people struggling to purchase the necessities of life. That is why Senator Joseph Lieberman, Democrat of Connecticut, and Representative Dean Gallo, Republican of New Jersey, have proposed bills that would adjust poverty levels for state differences in the cost of living. That way poor families in Los Angeles and Philadelphia will get their fair share of the \$20 billion or more that Congress spends on need-based programs. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York, an expert on poverty, says that adjusting poverty levels for living costs will produce poverty rates in New York nearly as high as those in the Deep South.

The only argument against the bills is that

high-income states like New York and California can afford to pay more to help their poor than can low-income states like Mississippi and South Carolina. But the poor in New York are not just the responsibility of taxpayers in New York; helping the poor is every American's duty, best carried out by Federal payments that take account of differences in the cost of living. Of course, wealthy states like New York will pay a disproportionate share of the taxes that support such payments.

The argument for letting rich states take care of "their" own poor fails for another reason: they will shirk. If state governments try to finance generous welfare, they trigger in-migration of the poor and out-migration of wealthy taxpayers. Therefore they underfinance welfare; over the past two decades, state welfare benefits have dwindled.

Federal poverty levels are supposed to identify families that cannot buy minimally decent food, clothes and shelter. To act as if living costs do not matter, or as if financially strapped states will pick up where Washington leaves off, amounts to a vicious attack on the poor who happen to live in high-cost states.

Time for U.S. to Sit Down With the New Japan

To the Editor:

The Clinton Administration is still at a loss about how to deal with Prime Minister Tomichi Murayama of Japan and his new coalition regime.

In July 1993, Japan's general election ended the 38-year rule of the old Liberal Democratic Party. The anti-Liberal Democratic coalition, including the Socialists without their most doctrinaire leftist segment, was controlled by Ichiro Ozawa, who split away with many of his party's most nationalistic and corrupt elements.

On June 29, the new Liberal Democratic Party, the new Socialists and the leading reform group, the Harbinger Party, combined to defeat Mr. Ozawa's candidate for prime minister and elected instead Mr. Murayama of the new Socialists. Mr. Ozawa was forced out of power for the first time in his political career.

President Clinton's hesitancy toward the Murayama administration has shown how much America took for granted the "Ozawa lever," the secret tool to manipulate Japan. Presidents Reagan, Bush and Clinton all counted on Mr. Ozawa, the fixer of Japanese politics. Just as President Clinton has harped on trade deficits as if they were mainly caused by Japan, one President after another has loudly blamed Japan for America's economic and political problems.

They have used American anger against Japan as the pretext for threatening trade sanctions. Unfortunately, Japan was cowed by this posturing. Mr. Ozawa goaded the Japanese Government into capitulating to American demands for the sake of "improving" the relationship with the United States.

In 1987, 1989 and again in 1994, Mr. Ozawa had the United States impose on Japan Motorola's cellular telephone system, which is technically incompatible with Japan's system. From 1990 to 1991, Mr. Ozawa, not even a cabinet member, forced Japan, without any debate in Parliament, to make a \$13 billion contribution for the Persian Gulf war.

Mr. Ozawa has converted all these deals into kickback and influence-peddling machines. His source of political power was money. The United States has become a partner of Japan's corrupt money politics.

The Clinton Administration used Mr. Ozawa to enlist Japan in the American-led confrontation with North Korea over nuclear issues. Mr. Ozawa, in turn, found the United States-hyped fear of North Korea useful in paving the way to send

Japanese military forces abroad. Late in April, Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata tried to distance himself from Mr. Ozawa and restrain the United States from the misguided confrontation with North Korea. Mr. Hata was also alarmed by Ozawa-led piecemeal cedings of auto, semiconductor and other markets to the United States. Unfortunately, Mr. Ozawa reined in Mr. Hata.

The Murayama administration is solidifying its hold on Japanese politics. Mr. Ozawa's record as the hidden American agent is being exposed, increasing Japanese public anger at the United States. Accordingly, the United States is well advised to open forthright contacts with the new administration and start discussing United States-Japan cooperation on global issues from the North Korean nuclear threats to the World Trade Organization.

YOSHI TSURUMI
Prof. of International Business
Baruch College, CUNY
Scarsdale, N.Y., July 28, 1994

Socialists? Not Really

To the Editor:

The recently established Socialist-led coalition Government in Japan is not "socialist" at all. It is important that Americans understand that no

backed the Socialists. After the land reform of the late 1940's newly independent farmers showed strong support for the Liberal Democrats. Japan's postwar prosperity equalized incomes and improved working conditions. Consequently, the Socialists were absorbed into a Liberal Democrat-dominated system, and their support eroded. Despite this, labor unions kept paying dues to the party.

The Socialists suffered setbacks in the early 1960's, including the assassination of the party's leader by a right-wing extremist. This eliminated the party as a major force.

The most divisive issue between the two parties has been the United States-Japan Security Treaty. This treaty has enabled Japan to live under the American security umbrella and cede its major foreign policy decisions to the United States. The Social Democrats have always maintained that they would abrogate this agreement. However, Prime Minister Tomichi Murayama has informed President Clinton that his Government will continue to honor it. Once the Socialists have tasted the forbidden fruit of supreme power, they will surely try to gloss over past differences with the Liberal Democrats to retain it.

RYOJIRO WATANABE
President
Japan American Cultural Society
Tokyo, July 28, 1994

Studying America

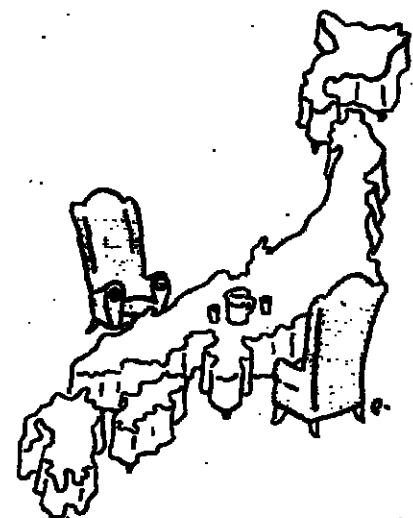
To the Editor:

Re Michael Armacost's "Japan Goes to Business School" (Op-Ed, July 28): I have taught political economy to many Japanese as a professor at Columbia University's Graduate School of Business. The behavior of these students, whatever reasons underlie their sponsorship, suggests they are much more interested in learning about American society than American production techniques.

When they drive across the United States during breaks between terms, as many do, it is not to study high-tech manufacturing in Silicon Valley but to explore a country with a culture that is highly attractive to them.

I'm certain we send back better-trained students who will contribute to reform of Japanese management practices. I'm also certain that as these students become influential in Japanese business and government, they will give Japan a more informed and sympathetic view of American society.

RAYMOND D. HORTON
New York, July 29, 1994



Phil Martin

fundamental change in the Japanese political system has occurred.

Until after World War II, a great number of Japanese were farmers. There were two main groups: landowners and tenant farmers. Through modern Japanese history the two have confronted each other socially, economically and politically.

In the postwar period, landowners generally supported the Liberal Democratic Party, while tenant farmers

Costs of Peacekeeping Don't Strap the U.N.

To the Editor:

"U.N. Authorizes Invasion of Haiti to Be Led by U.S." (front page, Aug. 1) reports that the United Nations "is strapped for cash largely because of its many peacekeeping operations."

The United Nations is strapped for cash because the United States, in particular, has failed to pay its share. If Washington paid this country's assessed share of costs for peacekeeping and other United Nations activities, as our European and Japanese allies do, the world organization would not be paralyzed by insolvency.

Legislation to make belated payment of our \$1.2 billion in overdue obligations has been waylaid by Congressional caprice and Clinton Administration ineptitude. On July 22, the Senate voted to slash peacekeeping payments \$350 million (preposterously, to reimburse state governments for jailing illegal immigrants), with 17 Democratic senators voting with the neo-isolationist bloc.

The United Nations and its member states are on the post-cold war security front lines — at a fraction of the cost we pay for the Pentagon. Washington's seeming determination to bankrupt the United Nations will, in the end, burden American taxpayers.

JEFFREY LAURENTI
Executive Director, United Nations Association of the United States
New York, Aug. 1, 1994

How About More Classes for the Money? (Op-Ed)

To the Editor:

"One Top College's Price Tag: Why So Low, and So High?" (front page, July 27), on Swarthmore, offered a good insight into the finances of the small, elite private colleges. My daughter attends a similar school with an identical price tag. It is easy to see where the money goes.

Yet a parent must feel perplexed by the incredibly shrinking product. When this father was a student at the City College of New York, his school year included five-day weeks, 34 to the academic year. Each semester

included five, six, even seven courses, which met for 17 or 18 hours.

For \$26,000 (lodging included), my daughter takes four courses (never on Friday), meeting twice a week in a term with 12 weeks of instruction. At almost \$1,100 a week, she attends eight lectures. A four-credit language course, which a generation ago met for five hours, meets for three; physics, formerly half a credit, is now two.

Isn't there a less expensive, less pretentious way to certify academic valor?

STUART G. LAURENCE
New York, July 29, 1994

A God of All Faiths

To the Editor:

Re "Attacks on Christian Right Amount to Bigotry" by Jendi Reiter (letter, July 27): There is a difference between pledging allegiance to the "Christian flag" and pledging allegiance to "one nation indivisible under God." Pledging allegiance to a Christian flag eliminates those Americans who do not profess the Christian faith, but have a different one.

Pledging allegiance to one nation indivisible under God includes all whose faith is strong. God does not belong exclusively to Christians, but exists for all of us. It is the wonder of this country that we are free to choose.

EVELYN B. FRIEDMAN
Edgewater, Md., July 27, 1994

Schools of the Rich

To the Editor:

Elite small colleges have been pricing themselves out of the market (front page, July 27) since the 1950's. At \$25,000 (room and board included), these colleges still accept only a fraction of the students who apply.

The upper 5 percent family income bracket supplies virtually all the enrollment at colleges of top prestige, while the percentage of students on scholarships and loans shrinks.

Inevitably, the elite colleges are known as schools for the rich. Low-income minority and white students shy away from a place where they see little chance of feeling socially at home.

LOUIS T. BENEDET
Mount Holly, Vt., July 27, 1994
The writer is a former college president.

Today's Midlife Career Changers Need Universal Health Plan

To the Editor:

In a July 15 speech, President Clinton pointed out that rich people have health insurance, poor people have health insurance, and so do politicians. Even those who go to jail are guaranteed a certain quality of health care. The only ones left behind are in the middle class. How come?

Those who oppose a universal health care plan contend that many in the middle class who don't have health insurance go without coverage because of choice. There must be some truth to that because this group has the political power to demand coverage. Indeed, we have Medicare and Medicaid because of the power of the groups these programs cover.

Today, many who have 20 or 30 years of experience in the labor force find themselves out of jobs, and they are forced to start over. For example, 53-year-olds often find themselves in the position of 20-year-olds, but with an entirely different perspective.

The Times welcomes letters from readers. Letters must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. We regret that we cannot acknowledge or return unpublished letters. Those selected for publication may be shortened for space reasons.

What previously was a group uninsured by choice has changed; now we see the uninsured made up of all age groups, not just the young.

Therefore, the politics of the issue has changed. Social Security and Medicare came into existence not just because of the political power of groups representing the elderly, but also because a younger population wanted protection on entering old age in a time when smaller families reduced the likelihood that their children would take care of them. Similarly, many in 1994 see themselves as being without health care someday, not because of family size, but

because of abrupt career changes. Those who oppose universal health care are living in the past when they say that those not covered choose not to be. Buzzwords like "socialized medicine" are a red herring. The issue is what is necessary in an economy such as ours. Universal coverage will gain strength as more people find their careers changing in midlife. Those who don't recognize this will have to accept the political consequences.

LYNN A. SMITH
Associate Professor of Economics
Clarion University
Clarion, Pa., July 29, 1994

Viking Mosquitoes

To the Editor:

As bad as the bug situation is in the New York region this summer (news article, July 28), at least people in this area are somewhat prepared for and resigned to pesky mosquitoes.

In the second week of July, my brother and I were in Copenhagen during an unexpected heat wave and bug infestation. Every night we squashed mosquitoes on the wall, and each morning we counted our bites. I haven't received a single bite since returning.

ELLEN LEVITT
Brooklyn, July 29, 1994

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In America
BOB HERBERT

Disregard Of The Truth

Driven by ambition, misguided loyalties and intense political pressures, public officials resorted to astounding levels of misconduct in the aftermath of the tragic Waldbaum's supermarket fire in Brooklyn in 1978.

Six firemen were killed and the tragedy generated enormous publicity. The politicians needed a fall guy. A ne'er-do-well named Eric Jackson eventually was convicted of arson and felony murder. But from very early on in the investigation the Police Department believed that the only arson at Waldbaum's had been committed by firefighters.

This was spelled out in a 1992 memorandum from Supreme Court Justice Joseph Slavin, who ordered a new trial for Mr. Jackson. The memo noted that there were four different fires in the supermarket — the original fire, which started in the men's room, and three others that started beneath a stairway.

Referring to Detective Harold Dugan, the Police Department's top arson investigator, Justice Slavin said: "Det. Dugan was of the opinion that the three fires underneath the stairway were set after the (original) fire had been extinguished. It was Dugan's opinion that the fire beneath the stairway had been set by the Fire Department in order to benefit the families of the deceased fire personnel."

Detective Dugan believed the original fire was accidental, resulting from an electrical malfunction.

The Kings County District Attorney's office was well aware of this as it prepared its case against Mr. Jackson. William Weininger was an Assistant District Attorney who asked to be relieved of his duties in connection with the case because he believed the evidence did not warrant a conviction of Mr. Jackson. In a memo dated Feb. 25, 1980, Mr. Weininger wrote, "It is the accusation of the Police Department that the Fire Department set the fire under the stairway to reinforce their theory that there was in fact arson involved in this case."

The D.A. retries an arson case that was a travesty the first time.

The heart of the prosecution's case was an alleged confession by Mr. Jackson. In his memo, Mr. Weininger wrote that independent investigators hired by the District Attorney's office "seem to rule out a theory consistent with Jackson's version."

But the District Attorney's office, headed at the time by Eugene Gold, had already decided that Mr. Jackson would take the fall. The desire to get Mr. Jackson was so intense that the District Attorney's office created a fake witness statement, which was typed up and made to look official, and was used in an attempt to deceive a woman into making incriminating statements against Mr. Jackson.

This was not disclosed until years after Mr. Jackson's conviction. At a hearing before Justice Slavin in 1988, Assistant District Attorney Michael Gore said, "The two-page statement which is in Q. & A. form, which purports to be a recorded statement, is a false statement."

Justice Slavin, outraged, said, "Who made this up if it is false?"

Mr. Gore replied: "The District Attorney's office made it up. It was never used as evidence, your honor, and was never put into the trial. It was used as an investigative tool."

The phony statement was the work of Assistant District Attorney Michael A. Gary, one of several investigators whose careers were boosted by the unscrupulous prosecution of Mr. Jackson. At a hearing in 1992 Mr. Gary, by then a judge, acknowledged that he had faked the statement. Justice Slavin asked Judge Gary if he had told his superiors about it. When Judge Gary said that he had, Justice Slavin inquired, "Were you fired on the spot?"

Virtually all of the evidence that would have tended to exonerate Mr. Jackson was concealed by the prosecution. Prosecutors took notes as arson investigators explained their findings, including the evidence showing that Mr. Jackson could not have started the fire. But instead of turning that information over to the defense, as they should have, the prosecutors remained mum, destroyed their notes and continued the case against Mr. Jackson.

There seemed to be no limit to the loathsome tactics the District Attorney's office was willing to employ to nail Mr. Jackson. And even now, with their game exposed and their expert witnesses having defected to the defense, Brooklyn prosecutors, led by District Attorney Charles Bynes, are stubbornly retrying Mr. Jackson.

Why?

What Will They Say At My Funeral?

By Mary Taylor Previte

CAMDEN, N.J.

"They'll bury me in Evergreen Cemetery," says the boy sitting knee to knee with me. Sixteen years old — imagining his death.

Twenty years ago — even 10 — I might have gently touched his arm and said: "No, child, no. It's just a nightmare." But I look across the room. Hanging skewed on the wall is a pencil drawing by a teen-age boy, Jason, who is dead. Shot to death at 17.

On another wall hangs art drawn by another boy, Norman, who is now dead; a charcoal copy of Michelangelo's hand of man reaching for that of God. Not long after giving me this drawing, Norman shot himself.

So I listen while this boy talks. "I keep thinkin' how my funeral gonna be," he says. "My friends, my mom, my uncles, my aunts, my grandma cryin' by my casket. My mom saying, 'I told him... I told him.' 'I got a feelin' it'll be in St. Joseph's,'" he continues. "Stained glass windows; carpets on the floor. The bulletin with my picture will say 'In Remembrance of...' And it'll say: 'Why did he have to leave us? He was a nice child. Very respectful. Smart. He can't be gone.'"

Mary Taylor Previte, administrator of the Camden County Youth Center, is author of "Hungry Ghosts," about working with troubled children.



Suppose We Invade Haiti. Then What?

By Joanne Landy

Contrary to the hopes of many who are calling for a U.S. invasion of Haiti, it is an illusion to believe that such an action could restore genuine democracy there. What happens after the Marines depose Haiti's brutal military rulers? Washington would probably sanction the return of the exiled President, the Rev. Jean-Bertrand Aristide, but — judging by past U.S. policy in Haiti — would do nothing to help realize the hopes of the overwhelming number of Haitian people who voted for him in 1990.

If the U.S. invades, either on its own or with an assortment of countries recruited to lend an appearance of "multilateralism," it is unlikely that the Haitian people will regain control of their Government. Rather than a surgical strike to remove the military regime of Gen. Raoul Cédras, an American invasion would be the prelude to a lengthy occupation, formally under the authority of the United Nations but under de facto U.S. control.

Washington has never truly supported the aspirations of the Haitian people. When President Aristide was swept into office with 67 percent of the vote, the U.S.-supported candidate, Marc Bazin, a former World Bank official,

Joanne Landy is executive director of the New York-based Campaign for Peace and Democracy.

What makes a boy imagine his own death?

Outside the doors of my youth center — a pretrial juvenile detention facility — danger and confusion shape the world. Every 36 minutes in America, a child is killed or injured with a gun. In the last 15 years, nearly 50,000 children have been killed by

CITY KIDS An occasional series.

guns, roughly equivalent to the number of Americans killed in the Vietnam War. But no marble wall marks the death of these children. In Camden, each time a child is killed, his epitaph is added to the graffiti murals of the city's vacant lots. A Day-Glo memorial.

In Camden's Arlington Cemetery, I watch children carry a coffin; white-gloved teen-age boys in newly painted T-shirts struggling with unaccustomed manliness and sorrow, carrying a friend to his final resting place. In my middle-class neighborhood, no one would think of mourning the dead in an iridescent T-shirt. But it feels right here. They are children, I think to myself, children in freshly scrubbed sneakers, laces stylishly untied. Across their chests, the shirts show a chartrreuse tombstone nestled in tufts of green grass, a rainbow in pink and blue arching overhead. The T-shirt tombstones say: "In Memory of Jerry. Rest in Peace."

Jerry was one of my boys — caught in a "cross-head" — the cross-fire of a drive-by shooting. The white gloves the children wear will be buried on the coffin. But for years they will keep those memorial T-shirts and they will wear these memories of death.

"I been to 10 funerals this year," 15-year-old Shy says to me. In a flat little voice, she tells me the names of her dead friends: "E.B. The twins. Samalica. Rollo. Turon. Nate. Cha. Corey. David. You leave from the school to go to the graveyard. Everybody cryin'. Throwin' roses on the casket. Big crowd of kids. It keep gettin' worse. I hear the pastor an' I

keep wonderin' what he gonna say at my funeral."

Most of the teen-agers at the youth center have seen a dead body (I took a survey). Almost all have heard gunshots outside their homes, have had a family member involved with violence. Some heard the stutter of bullets before they were old enough to go to school. Nine out of 10 tell me they have seen a weapon used — guns, knives, bats, pipes, sticks, mace. Most have witnessed blood-spattered sidewalks and violence on the street. Half have seen it at school; one in four, in their own home.

"A little kid shouldn't be watchin' a dad beat up his mom," a 15-year-old boy tells me. "Shouldn't have to be runnin' to hide under the bed. Shouldn't have to be runnin' to call the cops. Shouldn't be afraid to go home, scared of his dad. Shouldn't be watchin' his mom cry. Not like I did."

Will three-strikes-and-you're-out fix what I am seeing here? We know

These kids would rather be in a lockup than on the streets.

what sets the stage for violence: children see it in their own homes. Victims become victimizers.

People ask me what topsy-turvy world could make a child prefer a lockup youth center like mine to being at home. I understand all too well. The day after two of our youngsters were gunned down on a Camden street corner, a breathless 14-year-old boy told one of our guards: "Good thing I be here. Mighta been me dead out there."

Another boy draws me a picture of the drop-down drills his mother makes him practice at home for when the sound of bullets rips the night — a child in terror peeping from beneath a bed and bullets shattering the glass. I look at the children's progress

charts at the school here, and I am heartened by the giant leaps many make. They often show a year's progress in reading, maybe two years' in math, achieved in just a few months. I used to wonder why, but I have come to understand. The first thing we give a boy or a girl is the gift of feeling safe. No bullets ripping by their door, no need for drop-down drills. A child in terror cannot learn; terror freezes the brain. A child released from terror is liberated to learn, to play, to be a child.

Children who live in terror rarely play. Nikkeya, 17, who lives on the street, tells me what games she doesn't know: "I can't play hopscotch, double Dutch or ride a bike." In games of musical chairs at Halloween and Christmas time, the youth center always loses a chair or two, shattered by tensed-up 16- and 17-year-olds lunging for the winning chair like little children, desperate to win. Playing catch-up on lost childhood.

A 10-year-old writes me a story called "Guns in My Tree House."

A teen-ager without the necessary protections of childhood — feeling safe, the nurturing of love, ever-present role models — creates his own: the posse, the fists, the guns, the boom-box music, the keep-away swagger that shouts Don't Mess With Me.

A boy lets me touch the bullet hole in his leg, metal lodging tight against bone. He talks about a night of playing chicken, the latest fad: driving the wrong way down one-way streets at 50 miles an hour. Defying and tempting death. Why put off sex or drugs or dangerous fun for a future that will never come?

William, age 17 — a healthy, strapping boy — writes his story for the center's student newspaper:

If I could have a dream come true,
I would be an astronaut — and
stay out in space — the moon,
the sky.

Away from guns and ride-bys and
everyday fights.

Away from gangs and drugs and
burned out houses and speeding
cars that run down little kids.

Close to God. An' peace. □

Journal
FRANK RICH

Back In Circulation

If knitters, Rollerbladers and orthodontists can all have their own slick special-interest magazines, why not people with AIDS? Many reasons spring to mind — starting with questions of taste — but none have deterred Sean Strub, a 36-year-old entrepreneur, from starting POZ (as in H.I.V. positive), which is easily as plush as Vanity Fair and is against all odds the only new magazine of the year that leaves me looking forward to the next issue.

The very concept of looking forward to future issues may sound oxymoronic when applied to a periodical focused on a terminal illness. And so does the notion of slickness: Is a glossy AIDS magazine whose contributors include writers, photographers and graphic artists from The New Yorker, Esquire, Variety, The New York Times and "Good Morning America" another example of what the writer Daniel Harris calls AIDS kitsch? In a tart essay in Harper's Magazine last month, Mr. Harris lamented the rise of AIDS products — from teddy bears sporting red ribbons to the bathetic HBO movie of "And the Band Played On" — that sentimentalize the epidemic and turn its patients into beatific poster children.

Yet Mr. Strub, who was already H.I.V. positive when the virus was first identified and who has full-blown AIDS today, has avoided that trap. POZ does not portray the sick as martyrs or victims but instead urgently advances the premise, exemplified by Mr. Strub's own history and hardly limited to AIDS, that it is possible to be ill and have a vital life at the same time, even if the illness is terminal.

"If I were a woman and had suffered from breast cancer five years ago," Mr. Strub wrote in one of the three bimonthly issues he has published so far, "today I would be considered a breast cancer survivor. But even though I have survived H.I.V. for 15 years, I am still considered terminally ill. How much time must pass before I am considered a survivor?

Positive thinking about H.I.V.

vor instead of terminally ill?" To consign oneself to terminal status, he added, leaves little choice but to "plan the funeral and wait to die."

Mr. Strub, whose only outward sign of illness is his low weight, is not one to wait for anything. Since becoming H.I.V. positive he has run a successful direct-mail business, co-written books about corporate ethics and received 45 percent of the vote in a 1990 Democratic Congressional primary in Rockland County, N.Y. Now he invests his energy, and the proceeds of an insurance policy he sold, in POZ.

While some copies can be found on newsstands (including in middle America, via the vast Waldenbooks chain), most of the 100,000 circulation is given away to the target readership. That audience includes not just those infected by AIDS but those affected by AIDS — which means just about any American but most specifically the friends, caregivers and relatives of the ill, like Mr. Strub's mother in Iowa City and his sister, Megan Whiting, a young married New York suburbanite who left a corporate job to sell ads for POZ.

The audience mix can be found in the editorial mix. A cover interview with the articulate Pedro Zamora, the 22-year-old, H.I.V.-positive hero of MTV's documentary series "The Real World," is followed by a politically savvy rating of America's 50 most influential AIDS policy makers (Donna Shalala and Elizabeth Taylor are in, Bill Clinton and Jocelyn Elders are out). Hardheaded medical news appears in the back pages: different doctors offer second, third and fourth opinions of Mr. Strub's own current lab report.

Even the lab reports look suitable for framing, and POZ has not escaped criticism for its cheery image. Mr. Strub scoffs at the notion that grave illness should be relegated to typewritten newsprint. "This is my last legacy," he says, "so I publish a magazine that's the best I can do, as beautiful as I can make it."

He and his editor, Richard Pérez-Feria, may succeed even more than they planned. To be sure, POZ is an informed advocate for people with AIDS at a time when the virus has faded from the front page — and when the job of the Federal AIDS czar, recently vacated by the ineffectual Kristine Gebbie, remains undefined by the President.

But what makes POZ most compelling is that tough-minded people like Mr. Strub fight against death with knowledge, passion and wit on every glossy page. Until living ceases to be a terminal condition — with AIDS or without it — no magazine can tell a story less slick than that. □

Woodstock '94: The Festival That Won't Inhale

By JON PARELES

IT WILL PROBABLY GO something like this: you arrive at a parking lot somewhere in the Hudson Valley and show a \$135 ticket to a security guard. You have already been "discouraged," as the promoters put it, from bringing young children or any food not necessary for a special diet. Whatever you're carrying is searched to make sure you don't have alcohol, weapons, video cameras, tent stakes or other contraband. A shuttle bus carries you to Winston Farm in Saugerties, N.Y., where you show your ticket again.

You are outfitted with a wristband that you must not remove and are told that if you leave, you're out for the day. You may see a sign announcing that by your attendance, you consent to being filmed and videotaped. Through a perimeter of fences and campgrounds, you will find licensed souvenir vendors and corporate caterers, there to serve all your earthly needs for a price, payable in the festival's own scrip. (Drinking water will be free.) Welcome to Woodstock '94, where you are not just an audience member but an extra in the pay-per-view telecast and, for three days beginning on Friday, a captive market. Hey, party down!

Woodstock '94 will mark the silver anniversary of a famous mess. The throng of half a million people, the epochal traffic jam, the abandonment of ticket taking, the overwhelmed services, the inconsiderate kamikazes perched in the lighting scaffolds and the vast communal mud bath are all enshrined in 1969's lore. The promoters' plans for immediate profits disappeared with the crowd and the crashers, but the music (running hours late) played on, serenading an audience that to everyone's amazement never turned mean.

For a few days in upstate New York, hundreds of thousands of people lived up to the counterculture's pleas for peace, creating a symbolic alternative to the war in Vietnam. Country Joe McDonald's unexpurgated "Gimme an F" cheer and Richie Havens's invocation of freedom — both performers were to have played at the now-canceled Bethel '94 on the site of the original festival 60 miles away — gave the concert political resonance.

The 1969 Woodstock festival was out of control but, as a result, it came to stand for happy anarchy — something the promoters definitely don't want to happen again. They'd rather have a combination of a police state and a shopping mall. They're betting that concertgoers, now more leery of trusting or sharing with neighbors, may be grateful for the security. Music fans are no longer unified by a crisis like the Vietnam War or by the feeling that everyone who chooses the same

music is a kindred spirit. Peace and love just don't seem so accessible any more.

MASS CONCERTS ARE NO longer the novelty they were in 1969; promoters now know how to plan and produce them. For example, the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival celebrated its 25th consecutive year this April, with 424,000 people over two weekends. Woodstock's magnitude marked the end, for a while, of the rock concert as a homespun, small-scale, underground pleasure; by the late 1970's, punk had to reinvent rock's grass roots. One thing Woodstock taught the concert business was that rock fans will put up with nearly anything. If they would sit in the mud for three days, hungry, then minimal amenities will seem like luxuries.

For the second Woodstock, everything is battened down — or so the promoters hope: no surprises, please. While talking about Woodstock, the promoters must be thinking about Altamont, the 1969 free festival where the vibes turned bad and one concertgoer was beaten to death by Hell's Angels who had been hired as security. (Don't expect an anniversary show.) So they want to make sure that the crowd is docile, amused and unarmed. They're also thinking about Lollapalooza, the closest 1990's equivalent to the original Woodstock, a festival as a generational statement. So following Lollapalooza, they have a Surreal Field (electronic toys) and Eco-Village (social-action exhibits). And they're thinking about cash flow; it's the first rock festival that plans to have automatic teller machines on site. Of course, the people who go to Winston Farm are only part of the market to be milked. In 1994, the promoters know, there's a giant electronic audience out there.

The original Woodstock was naive about merchandising. The concert business in 1969 was largely a matter of theater and club shows, not arena and stadium dates. Television was on the sidelines, with room for rock only as an occasional variety-show appearance; images and logos were not so carefully designed or protected. It's hard to believe, but there weren't even official souvenir T-shirts for sale at the 1969 Woodstock. After 25 years, the concert business has figured out many more angles and revenue streams: knickknacks, concession stands, corporate sponsorships, ties-in to television and video and recording. Planning ahead, a festival brochure put out by Pepsi announces that "Woodstock '94... The Album" will be on sale Nov. 8. But no amount of advance planning can disguise the promoters' fear of sparse attendance. With 100,000 tickets unsold on Aug. 1, they extended the deadline to the last minute for buying tickets and loosened rules on group sales and early arrivals.



Security men at the original Woodstock, a festival famous as a gathering of a half a million without any serious crime.

As the business has changed, so has the audience. We're happy consumers now, resigned to the ubiquity of corporate connections. We're less and less shocked to hear favorite songs bent into commercials; we're inured to the beer-company logos on concert tickets; we're titillated by the canned perfection of music videos that look like advertisement clips, separated by ads that look like video clips. The younger rock audience breaks through video-era impersonality with moshing, one of the most tactile participatory rituals in music history. But other concertgoers are passive, content to soak up performances by bands that dare not change a note because they'll get out of sync with the computerized lights.

At this year's, the bands should run on time; it's a clockwork Woodstock. For \$135 a head, concertgoers are entitled to efficiency in their entertainment, and perhaps even a little sleep between shows. And a set at dawn, like the one the Jefferson Airplane played at the original festival, wouldn't go over well with the pay-per-view audience.

The Woodstock '94 lineup reflects inevitable changes after another quarter century of rock. At the 1969 Woodstock festival, the performers were all from the same generation as their listeners. Woodstock '94 has a few performers from 1969: Crosby, Stills and Nash, Santana, Joe Cocker and what's left of the Band. Bob Dylan, who shunned the original festival even though it was close to his late-1960's update retreat, will be on the bill this time.

But the remainder of the lineup bounces among generations and warring styles. Where the original Woodstock was a late-1960's summit meeting, Woodstock '94 is simply a hodgepodge. It's hard to imagine what fans of the industrial-strength blasphemy of Nine Inch Nails will have in common with those who want the soothing pop of Peter Dinklage. Will the people who came to hear Peter Gabriel and the Neville Brothers want to mosh to the Rollins Band and Metallica? They'd better; they can't leave the site.

Few people ever talk about the music at the original Woodstock, and for a reason.

Most of it was terrible: good bands playing on malfunctioning, rain-drenched equipment, their minds boggled by the size of the audience and/or recreational drugs. It would be easy to guarantee that the performers at Woodstock '94 will be more in tune, better dressed, less self-indulgent and more professional than most of those at the 1969 festival.

Unpredictability isn't prized the way it was in the psychedelic era. Looking over the lineup of Woodstock '94, it's hard to imagine that any of the performers would come up with the equivalent of turning "The Star-Spangled Banner" into a barrage of feedback, much less be applauded for it as Jimi Hendrix was. Then again, somebody might well imitate the original gesture.

Woodstock '94 needs to have hillsides full of people for the video cameras. Its plans are for those people to consume, to spend their scrip on provisions and souvenirs, to sit back and be entertained. But the only way the festival will be something more than another rock concert is if the crowd, against all odds and cynicism, unites to create its own myth.

From a Time of Plague

By K. ROBERT SCHWARZ

WHEN THE BARI-tone William Parker criticized singers two years ago for being "unvocal" about AIDS, he could have been speaking about the entire classical-music community. Even in the late 1980's, aside from an occasional star-studded "Music for Life" benefit, that community remained remarkably quiescent in the face of AIDS. Now, galvanized by the unceasing decimation of its ranks, the classical-music world has finally awakened.

Two recent recordings address the AIDS crisis from different angles. One, "Memento Bittersweet" (BMG Catalyst 09026-1979-2; CD), is a collection of instrumental music by composers who are HIV positive or who have died of AIDS. The other, "The AIDS Quilt Songbook" (Harmonia Mundi France HMN 907602; CD), is a cycle of songs by 15 composers that takes AIDS as its subject matter. Since these disks were recorded a year or two ago, Mr. Parker, the composers Chris DeBlasio and Kevin Oldham (of "Memento"), and the poets Melvin Dixon and Charles Barber (of "Songbook") have all died. So much for the widespread notion that the worst of the epidemic is behind us.

But how can one dispassionately evaluate music that emanates from the face of death? How much should the tragic circumstances surrounding these compositions color any assessment of the artistic result? Similar questions have been provoked by recent recordings of music composed by Jews who were murdered at the Nazi concentration camp at Theresienstadt. The range of achievement is similar as well: flashes of genius, honorable failures and the tantalizing promise of what might have been — had there been more time.

Time is not a luxury many of these composers possess. Those confronted with death in their early 30's have never had the opportunity for the slow growth and self-evaluation most creative artists require. So it is not surprising that very little of the music on "Memento Bittersweet" is first-rate. But it remains a valuable document, preserving the voices of a generation of composers who never got their rightful chances.

The centerpiece is Mr. Oldham's 25-minute Piano Concerto (1992), a



Kevin Oldham provides the centerpiece of "Memento Bittersweet," a piano concerto that he played shortly before his death last year.

perfect example of the inseparability of circumstance and composition. In January 1993, Mr. Oldham, already gravely ill, checked himself out of a New York hospital, flew to his home town of Kansas City and, in a heroic act of will, played the premiere of his concerto. He died a few weeks later. The concerto, given an urgent reading by Ian Hobson and the Kansas City Symphony under William McLaughlin, is imbued with the spirit of old-fashioned tonal, big-boned Romanticism. Sweeping passages build to grandiose climaxes that recall Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, Gershwin or Andrew Lloyd Webber. When Mr. Oldham avoids a sentimentality that veers perilously close to Broadway cliché, he displays a genuine, unforced melodic gift.

"Memento Bittersweet" is, for the most part, an understated collection, preferring nobility to hand-wringing. Fred Hersch's "Tango Bittersweet" elegantly straddles the worlds of jazz and classical music. Mr. DeBlasio's "God Is Our Righteousness" (for guitar and pipe organ) and Calvin Hampton's "Variations on Amazing Grace" (for English horn and pipe organ) take ungainly instrumental combinations and create works of charm and lucidity. Lee Gannon's woodwind octet, "Triad-O-Rama," is closest to the mainstream new-music world, its lean, economical Neo-Classicism sounding like sassy Stravinsky. "The AIDS Quilt Songbook"

presents a very different profile, for its composers run the gamut from established masters to neophytes. Organized by Mr. Parker, the "Songbook" project set out to create a portrait of the epidemic that would be quillike in its diversity. Its 14 poets are alternately mordant in their wit, gruesome in their honesty or metaphorical in their abstraction. And its composers display an equally broad stylistic range, from tonal lyricism to atonal stridency to Broadway patter.

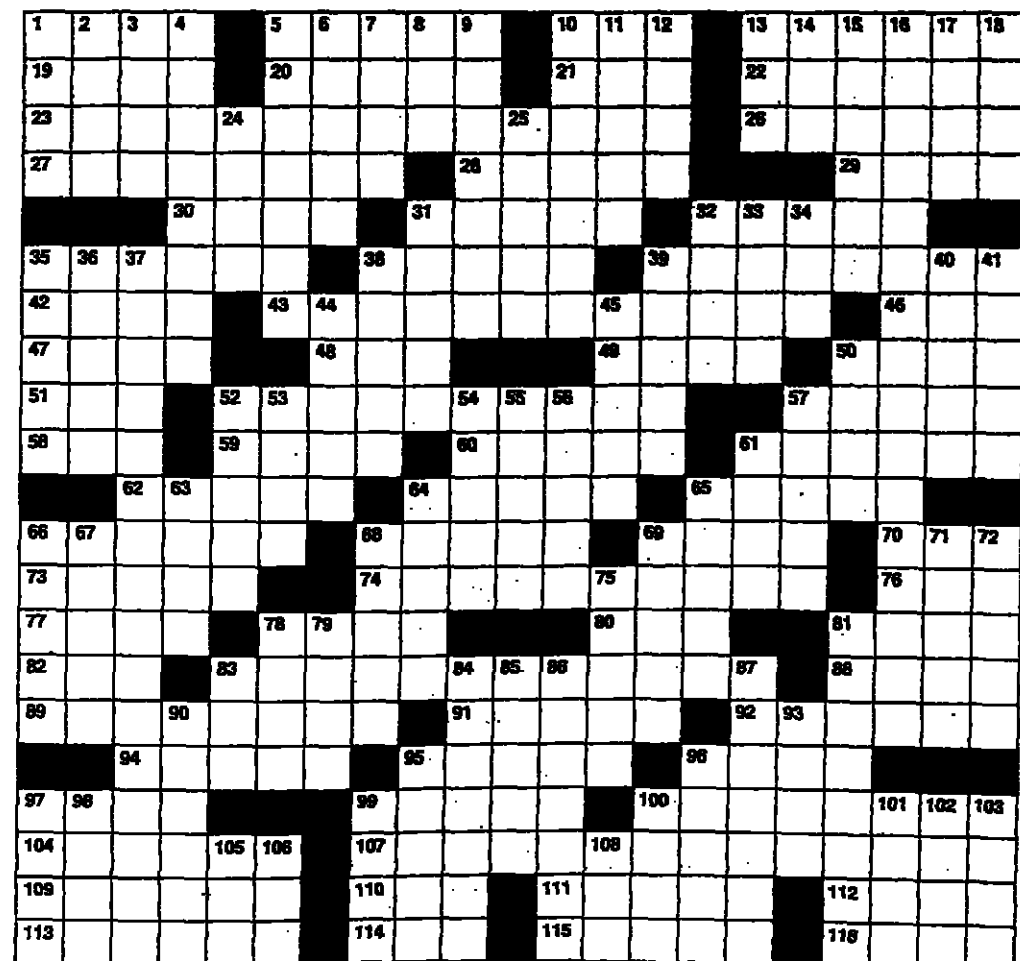
The finest songs are Ned Rorem's "Dream of Nightingales," plaintive and nostalgic in its lyricism; William Solcom's "Dasvedanya, Mama," a slinky blues inspired by Ethel Eichelberger's impudent text, and Lee Oldham's "Investiture at Ceccomi's," a miniature operatic dialogue. Younger composers like Ricky Ian Gordon and Mr. DeBlasio also contribute superb efforts; Mr. DeBlasio's "Walt Whitman in 1989" is extraordinarily moving, the more so for its beguiling simplicity.

The songs are divided among four baritones — Kurt Ollmann, William Sharp, Sanford Sylvan and Mr. Parker — and in many ways they are the stars of this recording. Refined, understated, luminous in tone and impeccable in diction, their singing is devoid of showy bombast or emotive display. Mr. Parker's voice, already betraying the ravages of AIDS, is a bit frayed in its upper register, but has lost none of its power to shape a melodic curve or clarify a textual allusion. It is a treasure that will be sorely missed.

BY THE CARLOAD

BY DEAN NILES / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 1 Quite the rage
 - 5 "Throw — From the Train"
 - 10 Abbr. in car ads
 - 13 Gilt
 - 19 Top of the line
 - 20 Ne plus ultra
 - 21 Associate of Tiger the Tiger
 - 22 One of the Beverly Hills
 - 23 1990 Craig Lucas play
 - 26 Rich fabric
 - 27 Go with
 - 28 Old-fashioned
 - 29 Galatea's beloved
 - 30 Agathe and others: Abbr.
 - 31 Lofty perch
 - 32 Onetime Hershey's rival
 - 35 Contributing —
 - 38 "It is a nipping — eager air": Shakespeare
 - 39 Location of many bars
 - 42 Side petals of a flower
 - 43 1966 Wilson Pickett hit
 - 46 Anderson's "High
 - 47 Skedaddles
 - 48 —disant (so-called)
 - 49 Good-sized
 - 50 Sphinx site
 - 51 Sample
 - 52 "Hurts So Good" singer
 - 57 Dred Scott Justice
 - 58 Purpose
 - 59 Robt. —
 - 60 Worker, informally
 - 61 Disposes of evidence, in a way
 - 62 Colorful perennial
 - 64 Sculptor George
 - 65 Stone heap
 - 66 One of the twins in "Twins"
 - 68 —ski
 - 69 Caramel-topped dessert
 - 70 Literary monogram
 - 73 Copacetic state
 - 74 Shelley work
 - 76 —glance
 - 77 Criticized
 - 78 L.B.J. biographer Robert
 - 80 Propeller
 - 81 France's — de Glénans
 - 82 Sorority letter
 - 83 1954 Kurosawa classic, with "The"
 - 88 Give way
 - 89 Boost the battery
 - 91 Cache
 - 92 Let down one's guard
 - 94 Tilt
 - 95 Person with a mission
 - 96 —cosa (something else): Sp.



- 97 Small airport craft, for short
- 99 First woman in the British Parliament
- 100 Places for doctors' strikes?
- 104 Author Raymond
- 107 Oklahoma group
- 109 News interruption
- 110 Chess champ, Mikhail
- 111 Certain addicts
- 112 Actress — May Oliver
- 113 Fit
- 114 Rte. 66, e.g.
- 115 Feminist Lucy
- 116 Baritone
- 14 Wildflower site
- 15 Onslaught
- 16 Hammett character
- 17 "... — saw Elba"
- 18 Capos
- 24 Golden-rule word
- 25 It starts "In the name of Allah..."
- 31 Prank
- 32 Not shrinking
- 33 Paris destination
- 34 Piggery
- 35 Disloyal
- 36 Novelist Robbe-Grillet
- 37 Carter compact
- 38 Collectively
- 39 Laisses —
- 40 Displayed, as charm
- 41 Dentist's shots
- 44 House of Poe
- 45 Stop running
- 50 "Mr. Mom" co-star, 1983
- 52 Overhang
- 53 Low-fat alternative
- 54 "Yolanta," e.g.
- 55 Presses
- 56 "Alice" (antidrug film)
- 57 "Just —"
- 61 Mosel feeder
- 63 Spot
- 64 Scoop (up)
- 65 David Copperfield's mother
- 66 Adventurous one
- 67 Gush
- 68 Up — (stuck)

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

FLA ISN CAISY SKINPS
REFASTE ODTUT SPINOUT
ANOTHER BONGO WORLDLY
CONNOISSEURS ORO YELL
ARTIST HRE BOTHERS REE
SEC BADAASHOP WANTS
SPENT DINES PATH
EARNST GAYON CENYIST
BLOATE BONES FINESSED
BLAKE COODEGRACE SAS
URE LOAF LESE PTS
ADS PUNIFORMER CHOTR
LECTURES CEASE HAINDO
ADRENES BYANS DELAYED
AGEO SCADS ARREL
CACHS MOOVIESTAR DIL
ICH STOLLEN ERG AGORA
COTE LLED NEIGHAYED
ETERNAL INFER LATIME
BESTERS NOONE ELAPSES
ORTEGA GREED SOB NST

On-line, they are like everyone else

JOSHUA QUITNER
ROCHESTER

THE lights are off in the Rochester Institute of Technology office where Norman Coombs sits listening to his personal computer.

A blur of noise whirs from a cigarette-box-sized deck stuck to the side of his computer screen. The deck, a Verbitte Mark I Speech Synthesizer, is reading Coombs's electronic mail aloud, at a rapid 450 words a minute.

There's e-mail from Bob Zehausen, a psychologist at St. John's University in New York City whose life's work has been getting people with disabilities to connect online; and Sheila Rosenberg, who teaches the use of computer networks to Long Island schoolchildren who have autism. Tourette's syndrome or cerebral palsy; and Robert Ambrose of New York City, a volunteer trying to line up refurbished computers and Internet-access accounts for people who might otherwise be isolated at home.

Sitting in the half-light with Coombs, a sighted visitor might feel disoriented as the words trill out of the speech synthesizer.

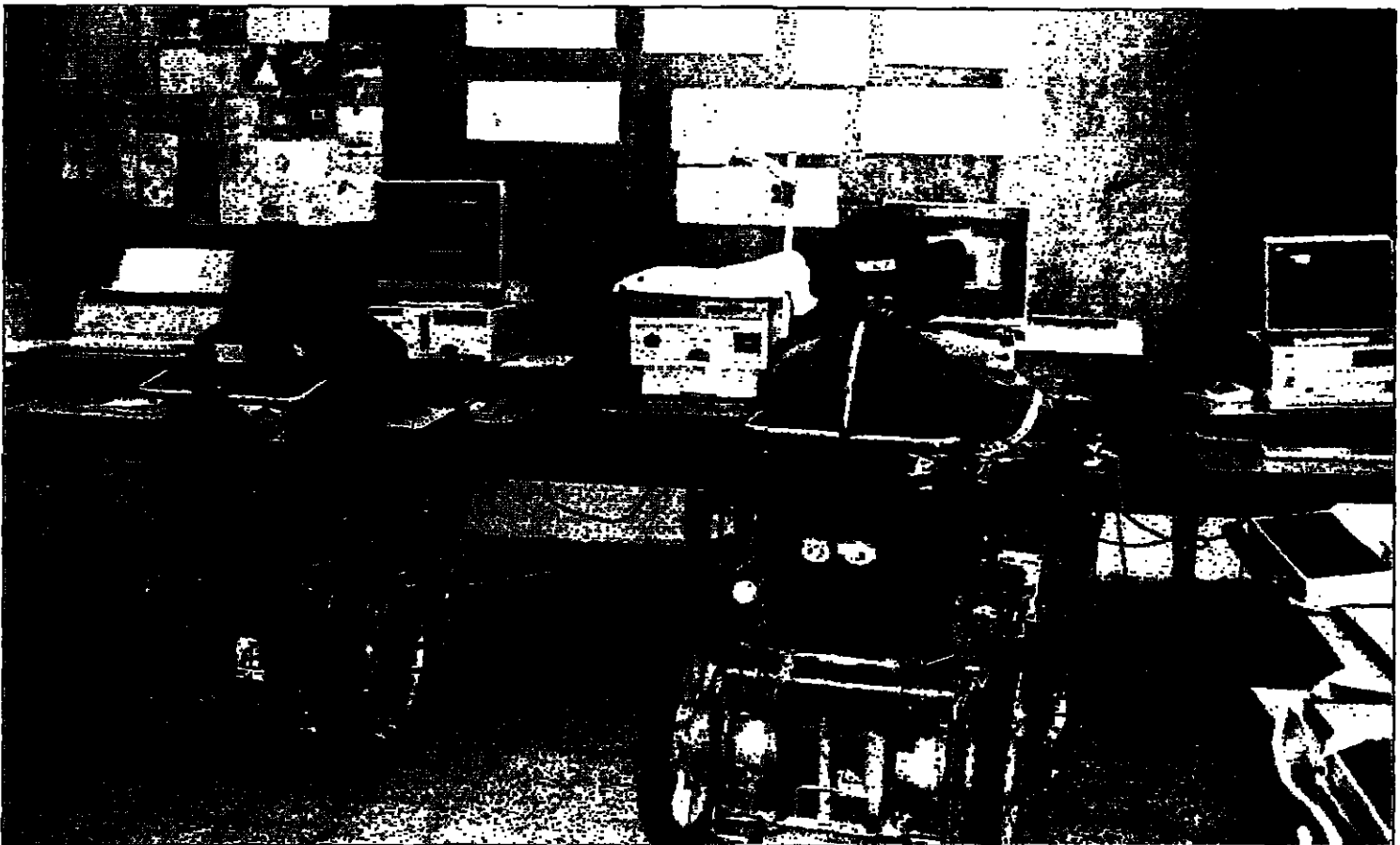
But to Coombs, who has been blind since age nine, it feels like speed reading.

"I'd really like it to go faster," he said. "That way I could get more work done." It's an odd thought, Coombs getting more work done. Despite being blind, the 62-year-old history professor teaches a full course load at RIT. But even that pales next to the work he's doing in cyberspace at the confluence of 15,000 intertwined computer networks called the Internet.

There, Coombs is chairman of Project EASI, Equal Access to Software and Information, an organization funded through grants and publications that is leading the fight to get people with disabilities online.

In cyberspace, Coombs - and Zehausen and Rosenberg and Ambrose and a few others - are at the forefront of a movement that is empowering people with disabilities by connecting them to each other and the world through computer networks.

The online world can be many things to many people, but for



With computers, the blind can read a newspaper the day it is published, and the housebound can 'get around' easily.

someone who is blind or deaf or crippled, the communications revolution is truly liberating. Experts say that people with disabilities, who tend through necessity to be early adopters of technology anyway, are now moving into the world of computer networks with unusual haste, using such things as speech synthesizers, puff-and-sip straws connected to pointing devices that allow them to pick out letters on a computer screen, or mechanical switches attached to knees or elbows.

"There is not one thing that has happened to this population that is more significant than the electronic highway. It is for us like the discovery of the wheel," said Dick Banks, a visually impaired "adaptive technologist" at the University of Wisconsin who helps people with disabilities get online.

It's difficult to estimate how many disabled people are using the Internet, but experts agree the number is burgeoning as people with disabilities go online to connect to schools and jobs, and to network with others in similar situations.

Blind people, for instance, can for the first time read a newspaper on the day it was published, rather than wait for a Braille version to arrive a week later. Deaf people can talk with anyone, without the need for a human interpreter. And the housebound can be freed from isolation and loneliness.

This new emphasis - spurred by the relative inexpensiveness of the new technology - comes at a key time. In July, the two-year-old Americans With Disabilities Act will be extended to companies that employ as few as 15 people, ensuring that they make reasonable accommodations (that might include working part or all of the day from home) for people with disabilities.

Randy Horwitz, a blind 18-year-old computer science student at Rochester, found the Internet earlier this year. "The Internet makes everything so accessible for us," he said, explaining that he uses it to talk with friends at other universities. To do this, he relies on two special tools: a voice synthesizer that reads information off his screen and a special pad he can place his hands over that spells out

in Braille, one line at a time, the characters on his screen. The second device, he said, has allowed him to learn character-critical computer programming.

Mainly, though, he said he likes to tap into Usenet, a collection of more than 4,000 special-interest discussion groups available to most Internet users. "I hate to talk about frivolous stuff, but they even post basketball box scores there," he said. "I'd never seen box scores before."

"I don't know what I'd do without this," said Peter Boulay of his online life. "I think I'd be a totally different person without these connections. I'd be bored." For Boulay, a 24-year-old double amputee, "boredom" can lead to alcoholism and despair, he said. In addition to being legless, Boulay was born with only one finger on each hand. That's enough to type on a computer keyboard, something that Boulay does for up to four hours each day.

"I type faster than most people with 10 fingers," he says.

Boulay said he gets about 200 pieces of e-mail each day, most from special-interest lists devoted to disability issues. One list, for instance, is concerned with ramifications of the Disabilities Act.

Boulay entertains himself online, playing an adventure game called Star Game. In the virtual world that Star Game players create, he's Lt. Cmdr. Boulay, "6-foot-5 inches tall, 240 pounds, blond hair, ice-blue eyes. A big boy, a very big boy and if anyone stands in his way for too long, they don't stay there," Boulay said.

"This is one major advantage of this technology: Physical impairments don't come into play and can be put out of mind, at least temporarily," Chris Bell wrote in an e-mail interview recently. "I firmly believe that computer communications, along with the continuing abilities of writing and synthesized speech that computer technology provides, is a vital opportunity to extend lives otherwise swamped by frustration and loss."

At the same time, though, some advocates remain cautious, warning that information technology can be misused, as well, neatly cutting off disabled people from the rest of the world.

"Many people in the disability movement are afraid that the technology will be used to isolate disabled people," said Deborah Kaplan, vice president of the World Institute on Disability, in Oakland. Kaplan also sits on the White House's National Informa-

No need to be late for class

ELLEN EDWARDS
WASHINGTON

PUBLIC television in the US has forged a partnership with 60 community colleges around the country that will enable students to earn degrees for the first time entirely through PBS "telecourses."

"It will bind PBS as never before to its original education mission," said PBS President Ervin Duggan.

"In a 500-channel universe we have to have a unique and differentiated mission. This is the first big strategic thing we are doing."

The program is called *Going the Distance* and is scheduled to begin this fall in the US.

It will permit students who need to work, who take care of their children at home or who live too far from a campus to earn an associate of arts degree from any of the colleges paired with 20 PBS stations.

PBS has offered courses for credit since 1981 - with nearly 350,000 enrolled last year - but students have never before been able to earn a degree with only those programs.

The program comes under the umbrella of PBS's new "Ready to Earn" initiative, which is a parallel program with the network's elaborate preschool initiative called "Ready to Learn."

PBS estimates that 90 percent of the students participating in "distance learning" are employed; 68 percent are women and 70 percent are between the ages of 23 and 49.

PBS's Adult Learning Service has been self-supporting, according to Jenny Goldstein, who is in charge of educational project development, and *Going the Distance* should also pay for itself.

PBS receives a \$15 fee from the colleges for each student who takes the class, as well as a license fee of between \$400 and \$500 from the college to air each course.

Some of the course materials come from programs that originally aired on PBS.

Other courses are created by outside educational producers specifically for the program. For the fall, about 60 courses will be offered.

(Newsday) (The Washington Post)

Senior bank employees lack the facts to win their case

LAW REPORT
ASHER FELIX LANDAU

In the National Labor Court, before the deputy-president, Judge Stephen Adler, judges Yitzhak Eliasoff and Adina Porat, employees' representative Yisrael Ziv and employers' representative Eliezer Shiloni, in the matter of the National Union of Managers and Authorized Signatories of the First International Bank of Israel and others, appellants, versus the First International Bank of Israel Ltd., and Hassneh Insurance Company Ltd., respondents (Dalet Bet Ayin Nun 5673-217).

IN 1972, the Foreign Trade Bank and the First International Bank of Israel (FIBI) were amalgamated, and the former ceased to exist. FIBI then reached an agreement with the managers and signatories of the Foreign Trade Bank who entered its employ as to their salaries and increments, and as to their insurance with Hassneh.

The insurance arrangements were made verbally between the bank, the union and Hassneh, and from October 1972, the bank made insurance deductions from the managers' and signatories' salaries which they transferred to Hassneh. The amounts involved in these procedures were based on FIBI's salary structure at the time.

In 1975, the bank and the union signed an agreement under which the appellants' salaries and increments were linked to those of managers and signatories at Bank Leumi, and FIBI then effected the deductions and transfers on the basis of the salaries of the corresponding Bank Leumi employees.

In 1977, FIBI, the union and Hassneh signed an agreement containing the same terms agreed upon verbally in 1972, based on the bank's salary structure at that time. However, the bank continued to make the deductions and transfers as laid down in the linkage agreement of 1975.

The 1975 linkage agreement provided specifically that if the insurance deductions after the linkage were less than would have been deducted before the linkage, the bank would be obliged to increase the deductions accordingly.

The appellants, relying on their interpretation of the linkage and insurance agreements of 1975 and 1977, contended that the bank had indeed deducted too little. They submitted that they were entitled, throughout the period of their employment, to the same deductions they had received under the agreement of 1972.

They therefore moved the District Labor Court of Tel Aviv to issue a declaration that they were entitled to increased deductions as from 1975; to order the bank and Hassneh to furnish accounts, in respect of all the appellants, of all

the deductions since the above date; to appoint an expert examiner to examine all the material, discover all the deviations from correct procedures, and assess the financial implications for each appellant; and to order the respondents to pay the amounts found to be owing.

The District Court struck out the claim at the outset (in limine), and the union and the employees appealed to the National Labor Court.

JUDGE ADLER, delivering the judgment of the court, dealt first with the interpretation of the linkage and the insurance agreements of 1975 and 1977. Citing precedents, he pointed out that although they were not "collective agreements" within the meaning of the Collective Agreements Law of 1957 but rather "collective arrangements," they were to be interpreted as collective agreements.

After a detailed examination, he held there was no contradiction between the two agreements, but that they complemented each other. The 1977 agreement did not cancel the application of the Bank Leumi salary structure, and did not revive the structure which existed before that agreement. The appellants' submission based on the interpretation of the agreements, therefore, was unacceptable to the court.

Even assuming the appellants' interpretation of the contracts was correct, Judge Adler continued, they were obliged to aver sufficient facts in their claim to establish a cause of action. They were not required to recite all their evidence. However, they were required at least, in the present context, to show that, in any one month, the insurance deduction of

an appellant, after 1975, was less than it would have been under the earlier system.

Citing precedents, he emphasized that labor courts hesitated to strike out claims at the outset. They inclined to afford employees every opportunity to prove their cases. They would readily allow a plaintiff to amend his claim, and both the District Labor Court and now this court had allowed amendments in the claim in the case. But they expected at least that a plaintiff would show he had done everything in his power to acquire the minimum information necessary for his claim.

Judge Adler then held that the appellants had not averred sufficient facts on which to base their claim. An examination of the material before the court did not show, even prima facie, that the bank had deducted less than the agreements demanded.

He then referred to the Income Tax Regulations (Rules for the Confirmation and Management of Provident Funds) of 1964, which governed managers' insurance policies; Income Tax Regulations (Confirmation Relating to Deductions at Source) of 1980; and precedents and legal texts bearing on the recording of the information missing from the appellants' claims.

They had received, he said, copies of the linkage and insurance agreements, their individual insurance policies and annual reports furnished to them by Hassneh, their monthly salary slips, and Form 106 recording deductions from their salaries at source. With all this information at their

disposal the court was not convinced they had done everything possible to assess their claims and place them upon a firm and clear basis.

THE BANK and Hassneh had raised the defense of prescription (limitation of actions by time) under section 6 of the Prescription Law of 1958, which states: "The period of prescription shall begin on the day on which the cause of action accrued."

Citing precedents, Judge Adler held that the "cause of action" relating to the bank's failure to deduct the necessary amounts for insurance arose at the end of each month when the deduction was made. On the other hand, the cause of action in claims against Hassneh arose only when the appellant became entitled to the insurance payment under the policy.

The appellants had relied on section 8 of the Law, which states, "Where the facts constituting the cause of action were unknown to the plaintiff for reasons beyond his control and which he could not have eliminated even by exercising reasonable care, the period of prescription shall begin on the day on which such facts became known to him."

The Supreme Court had held, inter alia, in the case of *Fatal vs. Kupat Holim Clalit* (C.A. 244/81; *The Jerusalem Post*, April 30, 1985), that it was for the plaintiff to prove the facts required under section 8 above. Judge Adler continued. This the appellants could not do in view of the information which was in their hands and their contacts with the bank and Hassneh regarding insurance.

Judge Adler added that the National Insurance Law (Consolidated Version), of 1968, was no guide in the case of an employer's obligations under a personal labor agreement, or a collective agreement or arrangement.

It followed that the defense of prescription in regard to the bank was to be adjudicated in the case of each appellant in accordance with the principles above. However, prescription could not be a ground for striking out the claims against Hassneh.

THE BANK had also relied on instruments signed by appellants on leaving their employment, waiving all their rights against the bank. Citing numerous precedents and referring, by comparison, to section 20 of the Collective Agreements Law and section 29 of the Severance Pay Law of 1963, Judge Adler dismissed this defense.

A waiver could only be valid, he said, if the signatory was fully aware of all his rights, and the waiver was accompanied by a full and detailed account of the money involved. Neither of these conditions had been fulfilled and, moreover, in some cases evidence would be necessary to clarify the situation.

The appellants' claims for the bank to furnish accounts and for the appointment of an expert examiner could also not be sustained. Since they had received all the necessary information there was no basis for ordering the bank to supply it. Moreover, since they had not averred sufficient facts to establish their cause of action, there was no basis for appointing an expert examiner.

Judge Adler proposed, therefore, that the appeal be dismissed.

Two members of the court, he continued, had dissented.

THE MINORITY analyzed the agreements in detail, emphasizing that the 1977 agreement restated the terms of the verbal insurance agreement of 1972. After examining the 1975 and 1977 agreements in detail, they reached the clear conclusion that it was the parties' intention to apply the provisions of the 1972 agreement continuously from 1972 until 1982, the linkage agreement of 1975 notwithstanding.

The minority did not agree that the particulars in the claim were inadequate. The claim was estimated by the appellants at an average of NIS 60,000 for each appellant, and the basis of the estimate had been stated. Rule 7 (9) of the Labor Court Rules (Procedure) of 1991 required

the value of the claim to be averred "as far as it can be stated." The rules anticipated, therefore, that an estimate would be sufficient.

In conclusion, the minority stressed that striking out a claim at the outset was an extremely drastic step. It should be taken only in cases where there was no possibility at all of the claim succeeding. This was particularly so in labor courts, in view of section 33 of the Labor Courts Law of 1969 which empowered the court to depart from the laws of evidence and to relax procedures provided justice was done.

The minority proposed, therefore, that the appeal be allowed, and the case be remitted to the District Court to be heard on its merits.

IN THE result, and by majority decision, the appeal was dismissed, and the appellants were ordered to pay the costs of each respondent in the sum of NIS 2,500, plus VAT.

Ya'acov and Avraham Weinrot, and Yaron Pardi, appeared for the appellants; Dr. Amnon Goldenberg, Shoshana Gavish, Hagai Breiner, Nahum Feinberg and David Efrati appeared for the bank; Avraham Zilbershatz and Zvi Gavish appeared for Hassneh.

The judgment was given on May 9, 1994.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 1994

Ramon won't sell Histadrut assets after all

HISTADRUT Chairman Haim Ramon, who had announced he would sell the Histadrut's properties after the elections to pay for its debts, has discovered he cannot touch most of it due to the heavy taxation imposed on selling it.

Ramon told journalists yesterday the Histadrut's properties, estimated

at billions of shekels, cannot be sold "due to the enormous taxes we would have to pay when we sell them."

The Histadrut's executive bureau yesterday decided to implement the reform in the Histadrut Holding Company introduced by former secretary-general Haim Haberfeld, which was recommended one year

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

ago by Histadrut Comptroller Nafali Blumenthal.

This reform would "change the essence of the holding company," Ramon said. "Until now it took an active part in the economy, but as of

today all the holding company's assets will be concentrated in a fund which is not involved in any business activity. The yield will be used for cultural purposes and for youth and sports activities."

Ramon said business assets, such as stocks and corporations, will be transferred to the fund. Stocks which

do not produce a yield will be sold.

The holding company will be operated by an assets company, which will have a board of directors and director-general, and be subject to Histadrut Treasurer Haim Oron.

This company will locate, manage and improve properties, he said.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Carmel Carpets to open branch in Amman: Carmel Carpets announced yesterday it will open a branch in Amman. The company's owners are in the final stages of negotiating with Jordanian businessmen, represented by a former Jordanian member of parliament who currently lives in Nabhus.

The sides agreed that the Jordanian branch will market Carmel Carpet's regular line of carpets, as well as a new luxury line which will include elements from the Jordanian royal coat-of-arms.

\$26 million trade surplus posted with Japan: Israel had a \$26 million trade surplus with Japan during the first half of the year, the Israel-Japan Chamber of Commerce announced yesterday.

Israel usually has a trade deficit with Japan. Last year, Israel's trade gap with Japan totaled \$278.7m., as imports reached \$1.05 billion and exports \$769m.

Investment Center approves nine projects worth \$14.5m.: The Industry and Trade Ministry's Investment Center yesterday approved nine projects totaling \$14.5 million. The center approved the \$7.8m. expansion of the Tosef Compound plastics plant in Eilat Tabor. It also approved a \$1.4m. investment for the establishment of a plant in Ma'alot Adumim to produce ink cartridges for printers. In addition, a \$1.3m. plant expansion was approved for Poly-Siv in Beit Shemesh which produces plastic products.

Inventech Venture Capital announces \$20 million fund: Inventech Venture Capital has announced that a \$20 million fund is available for early-stage projects, or in companies in the preliminary marketing phase. The fund is comprised of the Zalman Shoval group, MLL Software and Computers, the Industrial Development Bank and government-sponsored venture capital fund Yozma. Emphasis will be put on those companies and products with high export potential.

Vita Quality Foods, Bee Growers sign exclusive distribution deal: Vita Quality Foods announced it is entering the honey market. The company has signed an exclusive distribution agreement with Bee Growers in Emeq Hefer. Vita said the local honey market is estimated at NIS 30 million, representing production of 2,000 tons of honey annually. Emeq Hefer's products captured approximately 20 percent of local market sales.

American Israel Bank offers plan to help finance car purchase:

American Israel Bank is offering a new plan to help finance the purchase of a vehicle. The Total Cost plan offers customers a loan equal to 100 percent of the value of the car in addition to insurance against accidents and theft.

The bank is offering loans of NIS 40,000 to NIS 100,000, with a repayment route of 60% of the principal in monthly installments of the principal and interest or 40% of the interest payments and repayment of the principal at the end of the loan period.

ECI Telecom results more impressive than its stock

COMMENT

NEIL COHEN

ECI Telecom's results, published on Thursday, were hardly those of a company whose stock is off 29 percent so far this year. Net profits were up 29%, earnings per share rose 25% and revenues 32%.

Yet the market simply yawned and marked the share price down a little further. For a company managing to maintain a growth rate of close to 30% a year, a price-to-earnings ratio of about 17 times hardly seems demanding.

As Israeli stocks were pounded earlier in the year, ECI was not spared as investors were unwilling to take anything on trust from anyone. It does seem a little unfair that ECI has hardly participated in the recent rally, particularly since it continues to deliver the goods.

Investors have long felt that ECI could not go on growing at a 30% annual clip for ever and have for some time now imposed a discount accordingly.

And indeed, for all their impressiveness, there were the first hints of a slowdown in this last set of results. For one thing, gross margins slipped four and a half percentage points to 52.4% from 56.9%. This was apparently due to a shift in the product mix but may also indicate some price pressure on more mature products.

In addition, the company was holding a fair amount more inventory at the end of the quarter than it had been six months earlier and receivables had jumped by over 40%.

It is quite possible that this is purely coincidental, but these figures may indicate that the company is having to grant customers more attractive credit terms and hold stock for longer to win business.

Elbit buys Fibronics Int'l

RACHEL NEIMAN

FOLLOWING an agreement signed last week, Elbit has announced the acquisition of Fibronics International.

Fibronics will merge with Elbit via a subsidiary of the latter. The two are connected via Elron Electronics Industries, which holds 42 percent of Fibronics and 39% of Elbit.

The new board of directors will include an equal number of representatives from each company. Elron has assisted Fibronics in receiving \$4.15 million in bridge loans over the past six months.

Fibronics will introduce cost-cut-

ting measures as part of an service agreement with Elbit.

Elbit has offered shareholders a swap of 20 Fibronics shares for 1 Elbit share. The swap will total 400,000 shares, or \$8.9m.

Fibronics reported a second quarter net loss of \$4.3m., compared with a net loss of \$1.38m. during the same period last year.

Fibronics attributed the loss to decreased orders on its old line of prod-

ucts, a gap which has not been filled by increased orders of the new product line of intelligent hubs.

Anticipating reduced revenues during the transitional introduction period, Fibronics has been searching for a strategic partner.

For its part, Elbit has been interested in entering the computer network communications arena.

"This acquisition will enable us to reach a market share in these areas," Elbit president Emmanuel Gil said. Elbit expects the new partnership to reach profitability by next year.

Sunfrost negotiating purchase of 25%-50% of Topap's equity

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

SUNFROST is negotiating the purchase of 25 percent to 50% of Topap's equity, the Ashdod-based manufacturer of frozen vegetables and foods informed the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange yesterday.

The Be'er Tuvia-based Topap was founded this year by businessmen Yisrael Adler, Koby Porat and Roni Peles at a total investment of \$3.7 million.

The company was established to manufacture fries for the McDonald's fast food chain here.

The negotiations are in the framework of Sunfrost's expectations that Topap will capture a significant stake of the local fries market, which is currently dominated by Tapud.

Sunfrost recently terminated its marketing agreement with Tapud, after 10 years of cooperation.

Instead, the company signed an agreement to market Topap's Top

Chips to McDonald's, Burger King, Burger Ranch, Kentucky Fried Chicken and the retail and institutional market.

Last week Topap reported plans to capture about 50% of the local fries market, which is estimated at NIS 70m., representing 7,000 tons.

Sunfrost said finalization of the contract is subject to the approval of external bodies, including the Monopolies and Cartels Division and the Industry and Trade Ministry's Investment Center.

Ormat signs agreement with Pratt & Whitney

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

ORMAT Industries has signed an agreement to issue four percent of its shares in Pratt & Whitney in return for the latter's 40% stake in Beit Shemesh Engines (BSE), increasing its holding to 99%.

Ormat said the transaction is estimated at NIS 16.28 million and that the agreement is in the framework of the two companies' cooperation agreement to develop power stations based on Pratt & Whitney's gas turbines.

They recently signed a licensing agreement giving the Yavne-based Ormat the right to produce and supply power stations with a capacity of between 25 and 50 megawatts.

Ormat said BSE will manufacture parts and provide maintenance services for the gas turbines. Ormat develops and produces electric energy turbines and power units.

Ytong's net profit falls 58.7%

COMPANY RESULTS

RACHEL NEIMAN and GALIT LIPKIS BECK

YTONG has announced a 58.7 percent drop in second quarter net profits to NIS 2.6 million from NIS 6.3m. during the same period last year.

Revenues fell to NIS 49m. from NIS 51m., while earnings per share dropped to NIS 0.06 from NIS 0.16.

The company attributed the fall in profitability to a slowdown in construction activity due to the closure of the territories.

Trade and Maritime Services registered a 50% increase in second quarter net profits to NIS 1.5m. from NIS 1m. during the same period last year.

Revenues increased to NIS 5.2m. from NIS 4.1m., while earnings per share rose to NIS 0.20 from NIS 0.18.

The company, which provides customs clearinghouse and storage services, is in the process of preparation for international standards tests ISO 9000.

Plans for expansion were reflected in investments of NIS 557,000 in fixed assets over the second quarter.

Bank Adanim Mortgage and Loan, a subsidiary of Mishab Property and Investment Company and United Mizrahi Bank Investment Company, completed the second quarter with a small drop in net profits to NIS 1.17m. from NIS 1.18m. in the same period last year.

The bank completed the first half of the year with a 9.1% rise in net profit to NIS 2.4m. from NIS 2.2m. in the corresponding period last year.

In the second quarter, income from financial operations before provision for doubtful debts rose 6% to NIS 4.18m.

Total operating and other income rose 40% to 1.36m., while operating and other expenses increased 21% to NIS 2.89m.

Court: Tsubari must stay in prison until end of trial

EVELYN GORDON

EYLON Tsubari will stay in prison until the end of his trial, Supreme Court Justice Ya'akov Kedmi decided yesterday.

Tsubari, the former deputy director of Bank Hapoalim's Gmolut provident fund, is being charged with misleading an investigation, interfering with a judicial proceeding and intimidating a witness.

According to the indictment, all these crimes were committed after he was released on bail during a Securities Authority investigation of him for stock manipulation.

The state therefore asked that he be kept in jail until the end of his trial, to prevent a repeat of these crimes.

Both the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court and the Tel Aviv District Court agreed with the state's position, so Tsubari asked the Supreme Court for permission to appeal this decision.

Tsubari argued there is no fear of his interfering with the proceedings or intimidating witnesses, because he has already admitted to most of the facts in the indictment.

This, he said, makes it unnecessary for the state to even call any witnesses. In response, the state argued it would still have to call witnesses, because Tsubari has not admitted to all the relevant facts.

In particular, he has admitted to nothing relating to the first count of the indictment.

Furthermore, the state said, the statements of the witnesses involved are partial and confusing, so without actually calling the witnesses, it will be impossible to get a conviction.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (A.S.94)			
Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$50,000)	4.000	4.375	4.675
U.S. dollar (\$100,000)	3.875	4.250	4.500
German mark (DM 200,000)	4.000	4.000	4.125
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	3.250	3.375	3.500
Yen (10 million yen)	0.625	0.625	0.675

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (A.S.94)			
Currency	Buy	Sell	Bank of Israel
U.S. dollar	3.3510	3.3980	3.3724
U.S. dollar	3.0020	3.0700	3.0350
German mark	1.9080	1.9527	1.9300
French franc	4.8820	4.7277	4.8079
Japanese yen (100)	0.0027	0.0025	0.0027
Dutch florin	3.0125	3.0600	3.0365
Swiss franc	1.8890	1.7730	1.7089
Swedish krona	2.2816	2.2594	2.2707
Norwegian krona	0.3600	0.3600	0.3600
Denmark krone	0.4367	0.4428	0.4393
British pound	0.4851	0.4819	0.4835
Canadian dollar	0.6790	0.5980	0.5920
Australian dollar	2.1886	2.2174	2.2025
S. African rand	2.2484	2.2811	2.2638
Israeli sheqel (100)	0.8392	0.8460	0.8426
Belgian franc (10)	0.8777	0.8400	0.8581
Austrian schilling (10)	2.7115	2.7467	2.7293
Italian lira (1000)	1.9122	1.8962	1.9042
Jordanian dinar	—	—	—
Egyptian pound	—	—	—
ECU	3.8469	3.8883	3.8676
Irish punt	4.5911	4.5557	4.5734
Spanish peseta (100)	2.3622	2.3549	2.3585

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Exports to Latin America jump 52%

JOSE ROSENFELD

EXPORTS to Latin America jumped 52 percent during the first six months of the year compared to the same period last year, the Industry and Trade Ministry reported yesterday.

During the first half of the year, exports to Latin America reached \$242 million. Two-thirds of the exports were to Brazil, Chile, Argentina and Mexico. Exports to those countries rose an average of 90% during the first half of the year.

Exports to Mexico grew a dramatic 147% as a result of large investments and the process of modernization the country is undergoing following the signing of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

Israel also registered a significant rise in exports to Argentina of 100% and 58% each to Chile and Argentina.

The growth was concentrated in metal, machine and electronics exports, which were up 127% to \$23m., and chemical exports, which rose 25% to \$60m.

Imports from Latin America increased 23% during the first half of the year, totaling \$143m. About 60% of the imports are made up of meat products and a third of minerals, mostly coal.

Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish yesterday announced that he will travel next year to Latin America to promote the country's bilateral trade ties. The ministry will this year be adding two commercial attaches to the region, posting one in Colombia, who will deal with that country and Venezuela, and a second to Argentina, who will deal with Chile as well.

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Israel grants citizenship to fugitive commodities trader

ZURICH (Reuters) - Marc Rich, the fugitive commodities trader now resident in Switzerland, has been granted Israeli citizenship, a Swiss newspaper reported yesterday.

Sonntags Zeitung said Rich's office in the town of Zug, where his worldwide trading firm is based, confirmed he had become a citizen of Israel.

The paper said Israel, much like Switzerland, does not extradite citizens for tax evasion.

No independent comment was available from either Rich's firm or the Israeli Embassy in Bern.

Belgian-born Rich moved to Switzerland in 1984 after leaving New York with US government prosecutors hot on his trail.

Shortly after taking up residence in Zug, Rich was charged in the United States with various counts of tax evasion, fraud and racketeering, and is still wanted by the US Justice Department.

The Swiss newspaper said Rich had frequently visited Israel during the last few months.

These visits were also seen as evidence that Rich was interested in the chemical group Israel Chemicals, which is being privatized.

Earlier this week Rich's company said it was changing its name to Glencore International AG, effective on September 1, to reflect the recent restructuring and changes in ownership.

Last year Rich resigned as chairman of the company carrying his name, effectively ending his control of day-to-day operations at the firm he set up 20 years ago.

Rich set up his trading firm in 1974 after he quit Philipp Brothers (Pibro) because of a dispute over his bonus. He developed the company into one of the largest commodity trading firms in the world, and today it employs 5,000 people worldwide and is active in both trading and industrial activities.

Rich has reduced his stake in the firm to a minority 27.5 percent, from a previous 51%. Over the next five years Rich intends to reduce his holding to 15%.

He is being sued for \$500 million by his estranged wife Denise in an acrimonious divorce.

He is being sued for \$500 million by his estranged wife Denise in an acrimonious divorce.

Gold tumbles during week

COMMODITIES ROUNDUP

SENTIMENT on the world's precious metals markets turned decidedly negative last week, as gold prices fell for five successive sessions before staging a mild recovery.

But analysts suggested that prices might have further to fall before staging a recovery in the final quarter of 1994.

The precious metal tested a critical technical support level of \$375 an ounce before bargain hunters surfaced, and the gold price held.

Analysts suggested the reason for the drop could be attributed to the usual northern hemisphere summer lull, adding that gold was likely to remain under pressure for the rest of August and could possibly fall another \$4 or \$5 an ounce.

Nevertheless, for the fourth quarter they forecast gold would trade between \$370 and \$405, compared with an average price of \$383 for the first nine months of this year.

Traders on the floor said some pressure on gold was coming from disillusioned US hedge funds, which had expected the metal to go to \$400 an ounce.

Now they were selling and putting their money elsewhere.

Andy Smith, an analyst at UBS, said gold's relatively wider range last week contrasted with the "trailing trading" of recent weeks when the price often seemed trapped in a \$2 range.

He said there was a good deal of selling by producers recently, which were soaked up by some physical demand. And while speculative funds had helped to drive down the gold price, there was another element at work in the market that was hard to identify.

Technically, gold finds firm support at the \$375 level for the next few days, with the market consolidating its recent downward move around the \$376-\$380 range.

Some dealers see gold taking a shot at \$380-\$382, but others see this only being achieved with difficulty.

"It took long enough to fall through \$383, and it will take about as long to get back through it," one analyst said. "Also every producer in the world is looking to sell there."

Moshavim allowed to use buildings for business

REAL ESTATE ROUNDUP

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

MOSHAV buildings can be used for business activities following Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tsuri's decision to accept a committee's recommendations to use such buildings for purposes other than agriculture.

The committee was set up following moshav members' growing complaints to the ministry of a drop in their standard of living.

Some six months ago Yonatan Bassi, ministry director general, stopped granting approvals for irregular use of buildings until the committee published its recommendations.

The committee proposed establishing a central work region in every moshav to concentrate all non-agricultural work.

It also proposed that the ministry approve usage of buildings situated on A plots for non-agricultural activities. The A plots are situated close to residential areas in defined boundaries.

In addition, the committee recommends constructing an industrial park in every regional council.

Tsuri said conversion of moshav buildings for trade and services is part of the ministry's policy to help farmers find alternative sources of income. Tsuri said the ministry will help the moshavim develop regional work centers.

The ministry reported that more than 200 non-agricultural moshav

businesses have been set up during the last few years, mainly in the central region. Most of them were established in existing farm houses, without a legal permit.

The ministry said the rise in non-agricultural businesses is due to the fall in profitability from agriculture and the realization that the moshav offers preferential conditions compared with the city, such as lower costs of leasing and taxation.

The committee recommended closing down buildings in A plots that do not meet planning, construction and environmental protection regulations.

The committee also proposed granting approval for irregular usage of moshavim buildings solely to moshav members. The owners will be charged lease payments and municipal tax on the buildings starting from next January.

Foreign governments' recent change in policy towards Israel has led to a sharp increase in the establishment of embassies in the Tel Aviv area and the up-grading and relocation of existing ones, according to Darryl Jackson, who handles all diplomatic and embassy negotiations at Anglo Saxon Real Estate Agency.

Jackson said Cyprus, through Anglo Saxon, has signed a lease for its first embassy, located in the Top Tower Dizengoff Center. The 350-sq.m. office was leased at a price of \$21 per square meter.

Earlier in the month the Embassy of Kenya, a country that has only recently established full diplomatic ties with Israel, opened an office on Jabotinsky Street. The premises, on 400 square meters, were leased for \$8,250 per month.

Jackson also reported that the Brazilian Embassy re-located to new premises this month. The embassy moved to Yachin House on 14 Givoli. The new embassy, comprising 644 sq.m., was leased for \$18 per square meter.

Engel General Construction is building industrial buildings for rent in the northern industrial zone of Or Akiva.

The company plans to construct two buildings containing 5,000 sq.m. of space for industry. The developers plan to rent units of between 300 sq.m. and 500 sq.m. for \$5 per square meter. Construction is scheduled to end summer 1995.

Y. Moshkovitz Construction

Company has recently started construction of an office building in Haifa, adjacent to Ford House.

Moshkovitz is constructing the office tower in a 22.5% combination agreement with Azorim Properties. In other news, the company has rented 1,000 sq.m. in the industrial mall in Tel Hanan. The space will accommodate Moshkovitz's offices in the northern part of the country. The space was rented for \$9 per square meter.

Shechter Upholstery Material has purchased 300 sq.m. in Georgia House in Rishon LeZion for \$700,000. The new commercial center is scheduled to open at the end of the year.

Kravitz, an office supplies company, plans to invest NIS1m. in new branches in Tel Aviv and Beersheba.

The Burger King fast food chain has opened a 330 sq.m. restaurant in Kiryat Bialik. The chain invested \$700,000 in the restaurant, which contains seating for 180 people.

SuperPharm has announced the opening of its 34th branch, a 420-sq.m. facility in Arad.

Impact computer company has rented 300 sq.m. in a building situated close to the Ayalon mall in Ramat Gan.

The space was rented for \$7 per square meter. The company plans to invest \$100,000 in renovation work.

Russia keeps MMM boss in jail

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Russian tax police investigating Sergei Mavrodi, head of the troubled MMM investment fund, have been given the authority to keep him in custody for another 10 days, officials said yesterday.

Mavrodi was detained on Thursday night for an initial 72 hours, expiring late yesterday. But the procurator's office granted police the right to question him for a further 10 days, tax police told Itar-Tass news agency.

MMM shut all its branches after Mavrodi's detention, leaving thousands of investors clutching near worthless certificates. Authorities removed sacks of money and documents from the firm's headquarters and Mavrodi's apartment.

Lawyers for MMM said they planned to go to court to challenge alleged irregularities in the search.

Mavrodi was said by his spokesman to be fasting but in normal health.

"He's not intending to die," MMM spokesman Sergei Taranov told Tass.

Tax police say they are investigating him on suspicion of avoiding tax rather than for the operation of MMM, described by the government as a pyramid fund with no real assets.

MMM says some 10 million Russians have bought its shares and threatened to mobilize its shareholders against the government. But the crowds supporting Mavrodi have numbered a few thousand at most.

It slashed the price of its paper to a pittance after a crisis of confidence triggered a run on the securities.

The shares, worth 115,000 rubles (\$55) before the crisis, traded at 2,500 rubles (\$1.2) on Moscow's Central Universal Exchange on Friday. Just 10 shares changed hands, Itar-Tass news agency said.

Authorities, describing MMM shares as nothing more than lottery tickets, have accused the firm of violating tax and security laws.

They say the firm had been running a classic pyramid operation, using money from share purchases to fund an advertising campaign and allow share buy-backs at higher rates.

WORLD BRIEFS

US unemployment edges up to 6.1%: The US unemployment rate edged up to 6.1 percent in July, the government said, while the rate of job creation slowed from the previous month's sizzling pace. The Labor Department said 259,000 jobs were created outside the farm sector last month after a revised 356,000 new jobs in June.

The unemployment rate in July edged up from 6% in both May and June - a 3-1/2-year low.

Shanghai market soars 108.5%: In a spectacular turnaround that shattered every record on Shanghai's roller-coaster stock market, investors unleashed another buying wave that sent the index soaring by 108.50 percent on the week.

The Shanghai A share index for domestic investors surged 22.31 percent on Friday to 700.58 points. Its twin on the market in the southern Special Economic Zone of Shenzhen added 10.52% to 165.92.

Comcast, Tele-Communications confirm purchase of QVC: Cable giants Comcast Corp. and Tele-Communications Inc. made it official, saying they will buy QVC Inc., the largest US television home shopping network, in a sweetened, \$1.42 billion deal.

QVC's board of directors voted Thursday to approve the acquisition, which comes just weeks after QVC's plans to merge with broadcast network CBS Inc. fell apart.

Nexel Communications announces \$2.4 billion in deals: Nexel Communications Inc. announced deals worth \$2.4 billion with Motorola Inc. and Dial Page Inc. in what it said was the final step toward its goal of becoming the only wireless communications company supplying integrated voice and data services throughout North America.

Vietnam to make first issue in international money markets: Vietnam, seeking huge injections of foreign capital for economic development, will make its first foray on the international money markets late this year or early in 1995 with a \$50 million issue of Euro floating-rate notes, a senior banker said.

The Bank for Foreign Trade (Vietcombank), the country's largest state-owned commercial bank, will make the issue, said Vu Viet Ngao, the bank's deputy executive director.

Massive sell-off hits some of Canada's hottest diamond stocks: A massive sell-off hit some of Canada's hottest diamond stocks after disappointing test results for what had been one of the most promising properties in the country's Arctic. Bulk sample results for the much-vanted Thi Kwi Cho project showed it had no prospect of supporting a mine.

Germany's largest union demands pay increase: Germany's largest union, the powerful IG Metall, said it wanted a clear pay increase for its three million members in 1995 and would not accept another below-inflation wage deal. "The settlements must be above inflation and show regard for the sharp rise in corporate productivity," IG Metall leader Klaus Zwickel told the mass-circulation Bild newspaper.

Business mood bright in South Africa: The business mood in South Africa was at its brightest for 6-1/2 years in July, but the economy is unlikely to grow as much in 1994 as earlier hoped, the country's biggest employer body said. The South African Chamber of Business said industrial unrest and other developments in recent months had forced it to cut its growth estimate to 2.5 percent from 3.0%.

This would still be the best performance in five years, during which the economy endured its longest recession on record before turning last year when it grew a modest 1.2%.

Two-Sided, Maof fall sharply

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ANDRE LUMBROSO

185.38 -2.37% 186.13 -2.58% 195.68 +0.12%

Two-Sided Index Maof Index Karam Index

THE market seems to have returned to its old ways yesterday, as indexes declined while at the same time some securities rose sharply.

The Two-Sided declined 2.4 percent and the Maof 2.6%, while the Karam Index rose 0.1%. Turnover was NIS 210.6 million.

The turnover above the NIS 200m. mark is not that significant. The average value of shares has risen sharply over the last month, so the value of the turnover on a given number of shares has gone up accordingly.

Note, however, that the Karam has been rising steadily, more than what could be accounted for by the rise in price. Yesterday, the turnover there was NIS 75m. - with two-thirds of it on the parallel list. Not so long ago, turnovers of less than NIS 40m. were the norm.

The fact that the decline in the Maof was greater than the one in the Two-Sided Index indicates clearly that the contribution of the 75 securities which are not part of the Maof was negligible.

The Maof shares constitute approximately 75% of the Two Sided, so that index decline made up most of the decline in the Two Sided.

The declines were influenced by the drop in Israeli shares in New York. The key factor on everyone's mind was the fact that the season of financial reports is starting. The expectation is that the reports are likely to be worse, and this will be the third consecutive bad report.

Bank Mizrahi in its weekly survey

Takeover bandwagon rolls toward Wellcome, Zeneca

ANALYSIS

BEN HIRSCHLER

LONDON (Reuters) - The first hostile bid in the drug industry for six years has set the takeover rumor mill spinning for Wellcome Plc and Zeneca Group Plc, both middle-rankers on the world stage.

Shares in both companies have risen around five percent since Tuesday's \$8.5 billion bid by American Home Products Corp's for American Cyanamid Co, made at a thumping 50% premium to the market price.

"This is an after-shock of someone bidding a 50% premium," Peter Laing of investment bank Salomon Bros said on Thursday.

"People are beginning to think they should start revaluating the sector - and obviously some companies look more vulnerable than others."

Both Wellcome and Zeneca, whose shares were boosted by good results on Thursday, have dismissed the takeover speculation.

But analysts are convinced that consolidation is coming in the fragmented drugs industry, which faces an unprecedented slowdown in sales and growing price pressure.

"Wholesale change in the industry is inevitable," said Franc Gregori of Banque Paribas in London.

Gregori said firms ranking between the mid-teens and mid-20s in worldwide sales will be the most sought after, as "top ten" players seek significant market share increases.

Zeneca and Wellcome fit the bill, ranking 20th and 23rd respectively in world prescription drug sales in 1993, according to estimates compiled by Lehman Bros.

Lehman's Ian Smith said Wellcome is the favorite for any change in ownership: "Wellcome is probably the one most likely among the UK pharmaceutical firms to be involved in a merger."

But he doubts a hostile bid would succeed, given

the 39.6% stake held by the Wellcome Trust charity in the group.

Nomura also said any bid not recommended by management would be almost certain to fail, given the close relationship between the company and the Trust.

Zeneca has only really entered the frame as a bid candidate this week, with some analysts claiming the bioscience group is a British version of American Cyanamid and could be ripe to be broken up.

But the argument is not universally accepted and Laing said Zeneca's broad portfolio, including a strong presence in agrochemicals, would be a deterrent to many bidders.

Analysts and traders said a host of potential bidders had been rumored for both companies. "It's pretty easy to list those with the financial muscle, like Merck and Co., Pfizer, Glaxo Holdings and Roche Holdings," said one analyst.

However, there was no evidence of any active interest and both Zeneca and Wellcome have denied receiving approaches.

TEL AVIV STOCKS									
Multi-sided trading					Two-sided trading				
Name	Price	Change	%	Volume	Name	Price	Change	%	Volume
Commercial					Afternoon				
Bank Leumi	101.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Leumi	101.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Hapoalim	99.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Hapoalim	99.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Mizrahi	98.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Mizrahi	98.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Discount	97.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Discount	97.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	96.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	96.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	95.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	95.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	94.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	94.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	93.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	93.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	92.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	92.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	91.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	91.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	90.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	90.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	89.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	89.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	88.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	88.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	87.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	87.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	86.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	86.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	85.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	85.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	84.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	84.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	83.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	83.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	82.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	82.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	81.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	81.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	80.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	80.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	79.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	79.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	78.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	78.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	77.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	77.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	76.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	76.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	75.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	75.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	74.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	74.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	73.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	73.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	72.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	72.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	71.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	71.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	70.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	70.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	69.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	69.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	68.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	68.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	67.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	67.00	0.00	0.0	12800
Bank Haheretz	66.00	0.00	0.0	12800	Bank Haheretz	66.00	0.00	0.0	12800

Casino Salzburg due to arrive today

ORI LEWIS

CASINO Salzburg, Maccabi Haifa's opponents in the European Cup are due to arrive in Israel today.

The Austrian champions are to meet their Israeli counterparts and are hosting Haifa on Wednesday evening in the first of two legs which will decide which of the two clubs is to play in the prestigious Champions' League along with some of the finest teams in Europe.

But while the Haifaites will be confident that they can overcome their opponents, Salzburg, last season's runners-up in the UEFA Cup, have already started their league season and have played two games. Last week they drew 0-0 with Linz and on Saturday they beat Rapid Vienna 3-

0 at home.

As the local league has not begun yet, Haifa will have to rely on the practice they have put in over the past month, so their lack of real competition could be a telling factor.

Israeli club's European campaign begins tomorrow, with Hapoel Beersheba away to Aris Salonika in Greece in the UEFA Cup. On Thursday, Maccabi Tel Aviv will play against AB Keflavik of Iceland in the Cup-Winners' Cup.

Haifa's match is due to kick off at 7 p.m. at Kiryat Eliezer with the return match in Austria set for August 24. Likewise, Beersheba will play its return leg in Israel on August 23 and Maccabi Tel Aviv on August 25.

Israeli athletes fail to advance in European meet

JOEL GORDIN

ALL three Israelis who competed yesterday on the opening day of the European Athletics Championships in Helsinki failed to advance to the next round in their events.

Aleksandr Bazarov came fourth of six in his heat in the 400-meter hurdles. He clocked 50:30 seconds - 0.43 seconds slower than his own national record of 49:57. Kfir Golan was last of six in his heat in the 100-meter dash. He clocked 16:72 seconds - 0.19 seconds slower than his best time of 16:53. Itai Margalit cleared 2.15 meters in the high jump - 0.10 meters short of his national record of 2.25.

If any of the Israelis had achieved their best performances, they would have made it to the

semifinals (in Margalit's case, to the finals).

Pole vaulter and Olympic finalist Danny Krasnov, will start competing tomorrow in the preliminaries. He must expect to at least equal his national mark of 5:66 meters to reach Thursday's finals. Golan will contest the 200-meter sprint heats on Wednesday and Sergei Lakshuk will throw the discus on Friday. If Lakshuk equals his best throw this year (60:50m) he should make the finals on Sunday.

On Sunday, the final day, the last of the six Israelis, Dov Cremer, will take part in the marathon. He hopes to break his own personal best time of 2:18:03 seconds.

S. Africa sends Test toward draw



LEEDS (Reuters) - A glorious display of aggressive batting by Craig Matthews and the South African tailenders yesterday left the second Test looking likely to end in a draw.

With one day remaining, England was 144 for two in its second innings, a lead of 174.

South Africa, replying to England's 477 for nine declared, had earlier scored 447 in its first innings, a spirited revival after an one stage being 105 for five.

Beginning its second innings shortly after lunch, England managed only 57 runs by tea and in the process lost openers Mike Atherton and Graham Gooch.

Despite the absence of main strike bowler Allan Donald because of an acutely inflamed toe which could also keep him out of the final test, South Africa maintained a tight line and length to cut down England's scoring opportunities.

Graham Thorpe and Graeme Hick improved the tempo in the final hour of play as both struck boundaries off the paceman but England looked to have too little time to reach a decent total and then bowl South Africa out on the final day.

Thorpe reached his second half-century of the match shortly before the close when he was unbeaten on 51 and Hick was 48 not out.

England's hopes of a victory to square the three-match series, already dented by Peter Kirsten's courageous century on Saturday, were set back even further by a flamboyant 77-run eighth-wicket partnership between Matthews and Brian McMillan.

With South Africa resuming at 318 for seven, England must have anticipated a lead of over 100. Matthews, in particular, had other ideas.

He hammered paceman Phil DeFreitas for three boundaries in the second over of the day and raced to his maiden Test half-century from only 46 deliveries.



DEFIANT - South Africa's Craig Matthews celebrates his first Test half-century yesterday. He was unbeaten on 62. (Reuters)

A total of 124 runs came from 31 overs in the morning session, due in part to some wayward England bowling.

Matthews reached his half-century with a straight six off Phil Tufnell but it was the left-arm spinner who finally ended the partnership, bowling McMillan with a ball that turned sharply out of the rough and passed between the batsmen's legs.

McMillan hit two sixes and eight fours in making 78 from 140 balls.

There was still no respite for the England bowlers as number 10 Jamie de Villiers joined in by lofting Tufnell for another six before being

stumped off the same bowler for 13. Even that failed to spell the end of England's suffering as last man Allan Donald, despite his injured foot

which necessitated a runner, hit several lofted drives on his way to a Test best 27 before he was caught at short-midwicket off the bowling of DeFreitas to end a frustrating last wicket partnership of 37.

Matthews was left unbeaten on 62 while for England the best bowling figures came from DeFreitas who finished with four for 89.

Atherton and Gooch found runs hard to come by when England began its second innings and the frustration may have been a factor in Atherton's downfall.

After scoring 17, the England captain drove at a ball a little short of a half-volley and substitute fielder Daryll Cullinan dived forward in the covers to take a superb catch a few inches from the ground.

Gooch, using a runner after pulling a thigh muscle, fell to the final ball before tea, edging a simple catch to wicketkeeper Dave Richardson off the bowling of Matthews. He made 27.

Thorpe and Hick batted hesitantly after the interval, obviously aware that the loss of another wicket could expose England to the danger of defeat in a match which only a day earlier they had looked well set to win.

They survived without any undue scares and in the final hour Thorpe in particular hit some fine looking shots, including seven boundaries.

But England will need rapid runs on the final morning if it is to be in a position to give itself time to attempt to bowl out South Africa on a pitch still favoring the batsmen.

Sunday League
At Taunton: Durham beat Somerset by 6 wickets. Somerset 233-6 (innings closed) (G.Ross 91 not out, S.Evans 66). Gloucester 234-4 in 39.2 overs (J.Loughley 88, M.Saxby 52). Durham 4 points.

At Nottingham: Leicestershire beat Nottinghamshire by 26 runs. Leicestershire 168 in 36.3 overs (P.Nixon 72). Nottinghamshire 142 in 38.3 overs (P.Pollard 53; V.Wells 4-31). Leicestershire 4 points.

At Lord's: Glamorgan beat Middlesex by 7 wickets. Middlesex 150-5 (innings closed) (K.Brown 52 not out, Glamorgan 152-3 in 37.1 overs (D.Hamp 73). Glamorgan 4 points.

At Chesterfield: Derbyshire beat Gloucestershire by 33 runs. Derbyshire 226-3 (innings closed) (P.Bowler 56, K.Barnett 50 not out). Gloucestershire 193-8 (innings closed). Derbyshire 4 points.

At Chelmsford: Essex beat Lancashire by 5 wickets. Lancashire 221-4 (innings closed) (S.Titchard 96, J.Gallian 84). Essex 222-5 in 39.5 overs (J.Stephenson 73). Essex 4 points.

At Northampton: Northamptonshire beat Sussex by 6 wickets. Sussex 152-7 (innings closed). Northamptonshire 156-4 in 38.1 overs (R.Warren 55). Northamptonshire 4 points.

At Canterbury: Kent beat Hampshire by 6 wickets. Hampshire 169-7 (innings closed) (T.Middleton 65). Kent 170-4 in 36 overs (C.Hooper 56). Kent 4 points.

At Edgbaston: Worcestershire beat Warwickshire by 3 runs. Worcestershire 182-8 (innings closed) (G.Haynes 76). Warwickshire 179-8 (innings closed) (N.Radford 4-36). Worcestershire 4 points.

Puerto Rican hoopsters beat Greece

TORONTO (AP) - Puerto Rico, needing a five-point victory to advance to the quarter-finals of the World Championship of Basketball, beat Greece 72-64 yesterday to eliminate Germany from medal contention.

Puerto Rico (2-1) took the lead it needed at 69-63 on a layup by Jose Ortiz with 2:43 to play. Greece (2-1) advanced as long as it didn't lose by 14 or more points, so once Puerto Rico added three points on free throws over the next 1:40, all Greece wanted to do was make sure the margin didn't approach its number for elimination. That left Germany (1-1) powerless to only sit and watch in the stands.

Germany was scheduled to meet Egypt later yesterday.

Greece led 48-44 four minutes into the second half when Puerto Rico went on a 14-0 run that covered 4 1/2 minutes. The run started with a 3-pointer by Orlando Vega and ended with two free throws by him.

The only time Greece got back within Germany's magic number was with 3:46 to play when Panagiotis Fassoulas hit a shot jumper to make it 67-63.

Edgar Leon, who had five points in the key second-half run, led Puerto Rico with 16 points, while Ortiz and James Carter had 11 each. Ortiz also grabbed 11 rebounds.

Fassoulas finished with 21 points. Croatia 83, Australia 69.

Arian Konecic, who didn't even play the first 13 minutes of the game, scored 17 of his 25 points in the second half, leading a rally that carried Croatia to victory in Toronto Saturday.

Croatia, silver medalist at the 1992 Olympics behind the US, won its third straight game to finish in first place in Pool C. Australia (2-1) also has a berth in the championship bracket.

Konecic, little known on a team that starts NBA players Toni Kucok and Dario Radja, scored 12 points during an 18-7 burst that turned a 52-51 Croatia lead into a 70-58 advantage with 6:58 left. Konecic was 11-for-15 from the field for the game.

Australia, which got 19 points from former Seton Hall star Andrew Gaze and 16 from Mark Bradke, led by as many as six points in the first half.

Croatia also got 25 points from Radja, a member of the Boston Celtics. Kucok, who plays for the Chicago Bulls, managed just four points on 1-for-10 shooting, but he led Croatia with eight rebounds and seven assists.

Radja and Kucok both played the entire game, and Konecic played the final 27 minutes.

FIBA World Basketball Championship FIRST ROUND
Croatia 83, Australia 69.
Croatia 83, Australia 69.
Last night's scheduled games:
A-Spain vs. China
A-US vs. Brazil
Maple Leaf Gardens, Toronto

Saturday's Results
Croatia 83, Australia 69.
Croatia 83, Australia 69.
Last night's scheduled games:
D-Puerto Rico 72, Greece 64
D-Germany vs. Egypt

SCOREBOARD
TENNIS - Goran Ivankovic of Croatia defeated Fabrice Santoro of France, 6-2, 4-6, 4-6, 6-2 in yesterday's first match in the \$410,000 EA Gentlemen Open clay-court men's tennis tournament in Kitzbuehel, Austria.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Hap. Jerusalem gets new blood

The debt-ridden national league basketball team Hapoel Jerusalem has at last sprung into action and announced the signing of two foreign players: Radenko Dvorski and Billy Thompson.

The Yugoslav-born Dvorski started for Hapoel Tel Aviv two seasons ago.

Thompson played for the LA Lakers for two seasons (1988 and '89) and later for the Miami Heat before taking leave from basketball to study religion.

Joel Gordin

Arsenal beats Napoli

Arsenal, struggling desperately to find its goalscoring touch, needed the help of a controversial penalty to beat Napoli 1-0 yesterday and secure the four-team Makina tournament.

England international Ian Wright clinched the pre-season silverware with an artfully-taken penalty after referee Kelvin Morton decided Roberto Policano had handled in the box.

NASA joins ball-tampering debate

A scientist from NASA has been called in by the English Test and County Cricket Board to help in the long-running ball-tampering controversy.

Professor Rabi Mehm, an aerodynamics expert, met officials at Lord's for four hours, discussing possible changes to cricket's laws.

Astros hold off Giants for fifth straight win

HOUSTON (AP) - Jeff Bagwell hit his 39th homer, a three-run shot Saturday night and the Houston Astros held off the San Francisco Giants 8-7 for their fifth straight win.

Matt Williams hit his major league-leading 42nd home run as San Francisco lost its fifth straight.

Houston took an 8-4 lead into the ninth, but Jeff Reed hit a three-run homer off John Hudek with no outs.

With one out, pinch-runner Mike Benjamin was thrown out by center fielder Steve Finley when he tried to go from first to third on Todd Benzing's single.

A day after setting Astros' single-season records for homers, RBIs and extra-base hits, Bagwell struck again. His home run in the third inning gave him a major league-leading 115 RBIs and increased his career-best hitting streak to 16 games.

Pete Harnisch (8-5) won for the fifth time in six decisions.

William VanLandingham (7-2) lasted only 4 1/2 innings and gave up six runs on six hits and three walks.

Braves 2, Reds 1
Greg Maddux allowed just three hits in eight dominant innings and David Justice homered off Jose Rijo for the visiting Braves.

Maddux (15-5) allowed just two balls hit out of the infield - none after the second inning - by the National League's top-hitting team and lowered his major league-leading ERA to 1.63.

Braves manager Bobby Cox pinch hit for Maddux in the top of the ninth, and Mike Stanton came on and gave up a pair of singles around an out. Mark Wohlers gave up an RBI single to Kevin Mitchell before getting the last two outs for his first save.

Justice led off the second inning with his first career homer off Rijo (9-5).

Expos 4, Phillies 3 (11)
Wil Cordero scored from third base on a slow grounder to the mound in the 11th inning as the visiting Expos improved to a major-league best 70-39.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Montreal	70	39	.642	-
Atlanta	64	44	.591	6.5
New York	55	53	.509	16.5
Philadelphia	52	58	.473	18.5
Florida	49	61	.445	21.5

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cincinnati	64	45	.587	-
St. Louis	62	47	.567	2.0
Pittsburgh	51	58	.466	13
St. Louis	50	59	.456	14
Chicago	49	60	.450	15

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Los Angeles	55	54	.505	-
San Francisco	52	58	.468	3.0
Colorado	51	61	.455	5.5
San Diego	44	68	.398	13

SATURDAY'S NL RESULTS:

Chicago 7, San Diego 1
Atlanta 2, Cleveland 1
St. Louis 6, Pittsburgh 3
Montreal 4, Philadelphia 3
Houston 8, San Francisco 7
Florida 4, New York 3

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	69	39	.639	-
Baltimore	60	48	.556	9
Toronto	53	55	.489	17
Boston	53	57	.482	17
Detroit	50	60	.455	20

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	63	44	.588	-
Chicago	63	48	.565	3.5
Kansas City	53	58	.478	13
Minnesota	51	59	.461	14
Minnesota	49	60	.450	14.5

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Texas	58	57	.507	-
Oakland	48	60	.444	3.5
Seattle	44	63	.411	7
California	46	65	.409	7.5

SATURDAY'S AL RESULTS:

Boston 8, Cleveland 4
Cleveland 7, Boston 6
Minnesota 10, New York 4
Seattle 11, Kansas City 2
Detroit 3, Toronto 2
Baltimore 5, Milwaukee 0

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Shohat, Barak at odds over next year's defense budget

FINANCE Minister Avraham Shohat clashed yesterday with Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Ehud Barak over next year's defense budget at yesterday's cabinet meeting.

Barak, who wants his budget increased NIS 500 million warned ministers that without the addition, he will have to shut down a major military air base. Shohat responded angrily, discrediting Barak's strategy of tying the continued existence of "sacred cows" to additional budget funding.

"By the same means, the minister of culture can threaten to close down Habimah and the Cameri, if her budget is not increased, and Fud [Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer] can claim that people will not be moved out of caravans," said Shohat.

He added that the defense forces will have to live within their budget framework and, if necessary, make cuts affecting low-priority items.

Although the cabinet made no decisions yesterday concerning spending priorities for next year, most ministers and Barak found out that most of the NIS 2.5 billion allocated for new spending next year is already taken.

JOSE ROSENFELD

According to Shohat, only a few hundred million shekels are available to meet the ministers' NIS 8b. requests for new spending. The lion's share of the extra funds will go to pay for recovery programs for the defense industries. Kupa Holim Clalit and the kibbutzim.

Treasury Budget Director David Brodet warned that the financial problems of the defense industry have grown significantly. The Treasury is now looking at a crisis that will cost the taxpayer over \$1b. in the coming years instead of \$850m., as previously expected, said Brodet.

Brodet estimates that the second stage of the kibbutz debt rescheduling will cost NIS 5.4b. The payment will be shared between the kibbutzim, the banks and the government, which is expected to pay off a quarter of the total, or NIS 1.35b.

The cabinet held a special discussion on public transportation subsidies at the request of Transportation Minister Yisrael Kessar. Kessar blamed the 45 percent rise in bus fares compared with an inflation rate of 17% over the past

two years on the dramatic cut in state subsidies to the Egged and Dan bus cooperatives.

Kessar requested that subsidies be increased next year by NIS 140m. to a total of NIS 773m., an amount that would assure bus fares rise only at the rate of inflation. The Treasury is proposing to leave the subsidy budget at NIS 633m., which would mean bus fares would increase faster than inflation to cover the costs.

Brodet noted that the existing bus monopolies are inefficient and pay inflated wages to their workers. While truck drivers and private bus drivers are paid between NIS 4,300 and NIS 4,400 a month, cooperative employees are paid NIS 5,300 and members receive NIS 12,000 a month.

As another example of how inefficient the bus cooperatives are, Brodet compared the NIS 1.80 bus fare in Beersheba, which has a private company that does not receive any subsidies, to the subsidized NIS 2.80 bus riders pay in other large cities.

The cabinet will meet again on Wednesday to decide whether to raise next year's public transportation subsidy.



A member of the Temporary International Presence in Hebron (TIPH) observer force bids goodbye to a group of local youngsters yesterday. The observers left the town yesterday after their mandate expired. (Brian Hendrick)

Histadrut coalition crisis continues; Ramon won't let up on Einy's pension

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

THE crisis in the Histadrut coalition deepened yesterday, as Histadrut Chairman Haim Ramon refused to retract his decision to suspend administration and personnel section chairman Meir Gatt from his duties and to annul attorney Giora Einy's pension settlement, which Gatt had approved.

The efforts made by Labor Party leaders, and especially party Secretary-General Nissim Zivili, to resolve the crisis over the weekend, yielded no results. Labor leaders nonetheless urged Labor's Histadrut faction members, who met yesterday morning, not to do anything drastic, like walking out of the coalition with Ramon.

At his first briefing with reporters since his election as Histadrut chairman, Ramon yesterday reiterated his decision to suspend Gatt, and said he would go to court to annul Einy's pension plan, "because I will not pay a NIS 1.6 million pension to one man if I can help it."

Ramon explained that he picked Einy's case, even though several other Histadrut officials have even bigger pensions awaiting them, because the other settlements were either reasonable or ir-

versible, while his legal advisers predicted a good chance of winning the case against Einy.

After 24 years in the Histadrut, Einy, 51, head of the local labor councils' legal department, is to draw a pension of NIS 8,994 a month, and not, as Ramon's people said last week, over NIS 12,000 monthly. This will still cost the Histadrut, NIS 1.6m. by the time Einy is 65, Ramon said.

Einy is one of 64 senior Histadrut officials who will retire early and draw a pension until the age of 65. These pensions are meant to come directly from the Histadrut budget, with the pension funds only beginning to pay when these officials reach 65.

Ramon said yesterday that the problem between himself and Gatt is "serious; it's not a procedural issue but a question of principle and essence. The problem is that Gatt thinks his decision on Einy's pension is right and reasonable and I have no intention of paying such a pension without doing all I can to prevent it."

Ramon added that he also intends to replace the Histadrut's judiciary authority so that its members do not represent parties but are professional people known to be affiliated with any political body.

Northern District police chief may be indicted

RAINE MARCUS

NORTHERN District police chief Cmdr. Ya'acov Ganot is likely to be indicted on criminal charges based on recommendations by the Justice Ministry's police investigations department to the Tel Aviv District Attorney's Office.

Ganot took voluntary leave last month after an anonymous letter sent to the Justice Ministry accused him of receiving favors and bribes from building contractors in the North.

At the time Ganot said he saw

fit to go on leave until investigations against him were complete.

The Justice Ministry refused to comment on investigation findings yesterday.

Sources said that findings had been handed over to the Tel Aviv District Attorney's office because if the case comes to trial, it must be heard in an area other than the northern region where Ganot is well known.

Meanwhile another investigation by the same department regarding Dan district police chief Dep. Cmdr. Ya'acov Raz has been completed. Investigators discovered that allegations that Raz was free of charge in restaurants and received other favors were unfounded.

This investigation was also conducted because of an anonymous letter sent to the Justice Ministry's internal investigation department accusing Raz of wrongdoing.

Arab council heads decide to step up protest

DAVID RUDGE

ISRAELI Arab leaders yesterday decided on to intensify their protest actions to press the government to bail out the debt-crippled Arab local authorities.

Council offices in Arab towns and villages throughout the country are to be closed on Thursday and municipal services shut down.

It was also decided to keep all children in the Arab sector at home at the start of the new school term on September 1, and to call a general strike of the entire community on the same day.

The decisions were taken at a meeting in the protest tent opposite the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem.

The council heads, who have been on strike for over three weeks, are pressing the government to consolidate debts totaling NIS 200 million. They also want a drastic increase in operational and development budgets to bring them in line with allocations given to Jewish local authorities.

The monitoring committee, composed of council heads, MKs, and leading public figures, also decided to send a delegation to UN offices in Geneva next week to outline the plight of the Arab councils, many of which have been unable to pay workers' salaries for several months.

The Treasury and the Interior Ministry have said that budgets for the Arab councils are being increased under an agreement signed with the council heads two months ago.

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Ramon: Employees should also get tax breaks

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

HISTADRUT Chairman Haim Ramon said yesterday the Treasury has been giving manufacturers annual "gifts" of NIS 5.5 billion in National Insurance payments since 1987, totaling NIS 38.5b., and demanded the tax be reduced for workers as well.

Ramon also demanded increasing the tax brackets and giving married working women an added credit point, since they will be paying much more under the new National Health Insurance Law.

These demands are part of the Histadrut's traditional proposals for the state budget and tax reforms.

Ramon told reporters the NII and income tax reforms proposed by the Treasury, together with the health tax, would reduce the net wages of some 534,000 married working women. He demanded an extra credit point for these women, worth about NIS 107.

Noting the tax burden in Israel is one of the highest in the world, Ramon suggested those in the

NIS 2,500-NIS 3,500 income group have a 25% tax bracket, and those earning NIS 3,500-5,340 have a 30% tax bracket, in contrast to the Treasury's proposed 30% tax on those earning NIS 2,480 to NIS 5,340.

Ramon further demanded changing the distribution of tax exemption to lower work costs. He noted that since 1987 the government has reduced the manufacturers' NII payments from 7.95% to 2.4%, constituting a "gift" to the wealth of an annual NIS 5.5 billion. This year the Treasury wants to cut manufacturers' NII tax burden by an extra half a percent, from 2.4% to 1.9%, while lowering half a percent from the employees' NII payments as well.

"Reducing only the employees' NII tax is not just and defeats its economic purpose," said Ramon. "Therefore I suggest and demand that one whole percent be deducted from the employees' payments. This added expense to the state can be covered by the NIS 5.5 billion 'given' to the employers. Everyone agrees taxes must be reduced - the question is who will enjoy this reduction."

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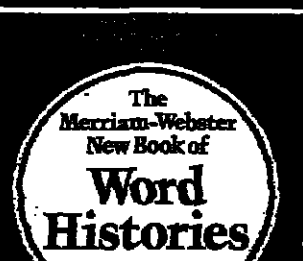


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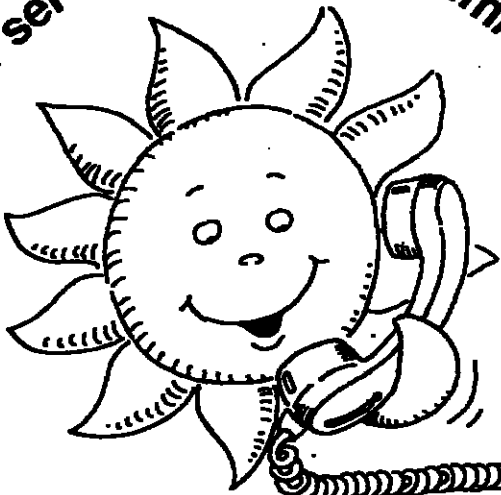
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